

Footprints of TEMM

Historical development of the environmental cooperation among Korea, China, and Japan from 1999 to 2010

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**Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting
among Korea, China, and Japan**



**International Affairs Division
International Cooperation Office
Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea**
88 Gwanmun-ro, Gwacheon-si, Gyeonggi-do 427-729
Republic of Korea
Tel: +82-2-2110-6548 Fax: +82-2-504-9206



**Division of Asian Affairs
Department of International Cooperation
Ministry of Environmental Protection
People's Republic of China**
115 Xizhimennei Nanxiaojie, Beijing 100035
People's Republic of China
Tel: +86-10-66556495 Fax: +86-10-66556534



**Environmental Cooperation Office
Ministry of the Environment, Japan**
1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8975
Japan
Tel: +81-3-5521-8248 Fax: +81-3-3581-3423

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Introduction





Welcoming Remarks



LEE Maanee Minister
Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea

Remarks by Minister Mr. LEE Korea

The Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan (TEMM) has made great strides for the last decade since its inception in Korea in 1999. At this juncture, it is very timely to record TEMM's achievements and history under the title of "Footprints of TEMM".

Recognizing Northeast Asia as one environmental community, TEMM has contributed a lot to environmental cooperation in this region through policy dialogue at the ministerial level. In addition, through various efforts such as joint environmental education and round table on environmental industry and technology, TEMM has further strengthened environmental cooperation in the region.

TEMM should continue to take the lead in agenda-setting and try to engage with other environmental cooperation mechanisms through networking, thereby advancing practical cooperation in a well-orchestrated fashion in the region.



ZHOU Shengxian Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection, People's Republic of China

Remarks by Minister Mr. ZHOU China

The environmental cooperation among Korea, China, and Japan has laid a solid foundation for improving regional environmental quality and promoting sustainable development. The ten priority areas for environmental cooperation adopted by the 11th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting will guide the environmental cooperation among the three countries to a new period. I hope the three countries will forge ahead the tripartite environmental dialogue and cooperation in line with the principle of "mutual trust, common interest and all-win" and strive to make it a model for regional environmental cooperation.



OZAWA Sakihito Minister
Ministry of Environment, Japan

Remarks by Minister Mr. OZAWA Japan

The Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting among Korea, China and Japan (TEMM) has strengthened a various range of environmental cooperation in Northeast Asia. We have deepened our recognition that the three countries are a part of one environmental community sharing the same atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere, promoted mutual understandings on the policies and measures in each country, and contributed to increasing opportunities for working together. Remarkably, cooperation networks between not only the environmental authorities, but also local governments, researchers, academia and youth from the three countries have been established through TEMM projects. On the basis of this development, it was a fruitful result that the three countries adopted "Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation" at TEMM12 and set the direction of the tripartite cooperation on the important areas such as climate change and biodiversity.

I also hope that the three countries will play a central role in promoting greater cooperation in order to achieve a low-carbon, a low-pollutant, and a sound resource recycle society in Asia towards an East Asian Community.



What is TEMM?

In recent years, the Northeast Asian sub-region has undergone a rapid economic development, and further growth is expected. At the same time problems such as environmental pollution and ecosystem deterioration have come to light. The serious challenge for the area is how to achieve sustainable development. While respective economic and social conditions differ substantially among Korea, China, and Japan, they share the common task of having to combat environmental problems at domestic, regional, and global levels.

In this context, the environment ministers of the three countries have been holding the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan (TEMM) on annual basis since 1999. Within this framework, the three countries aim to promote environmental management, to take a leading role in regional environmental management, and also to contribute to global environmental improvement.

At TEMM, the three ministers exchange views on the current environmental conditions and the concerns of each country as well as those common to the region. They also discuss how to promote environmental cooperation. Korea, China, and Japan have agreed to give priority to the following areas of cooperation for TEMM:

- Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation;
- Climate Change (Co-benefits Approaches, Low Carbon Society, Green Growth, etc.);
- Biodiversity Conservation;
- DSS (Dust and Sandstorms);
- Pollution Control (Air, Water, Marine Environment etc.);
- Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society;
- Transboundary Movement of E-Waste;
- Sound Management of Chemicals;
- Environmental Governance in Northeast Asia;
- Environmental Industries and Technology.

The three countries have been conducting concrete projects under TEMM. Projects currently underway include joint environmental training project, tripartite environmental education network, Tripartite Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry, Tripartite Circular Economy /3R/ Cycle Society Seminar , joint research on dust and sandstorms, Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among Korea, China and Japan , chemical research on photochemical oxidant, TEMM website and so on.

Inspired by TEMM and its projects, much exchange has taken place among the environmental administrations of the three countries. Additionally, TEMM projects have helped to create a broad network of local governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and researchers from the three countries. TEMM activities are highly regarded by the leaders of Korea, China, and Japan as a leading example of tripartite cooperation.

The three countries believe that cooperation under TEMM is playing an important role in strengthening environmental cooperation in Northeast Asia, and they determined to undertake further activities. They also believe that the experiences and outcomes of TEMM will provide the world community with a model of how countries with different social and economic conditions can engage in effective environmental cooperation.





Activities

Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation

Chapter 1: Strategies of Environmental Cooperation among Korea, China, and Japan

1. Introduction

1 The Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, and Japan are situated in Northeast Asia and share the atmospheric, marine and natural environment. Recent years have seen rapid economic development in Northeast Asia, with continued growth expected. At the same time, various environmental issues have emerged, and how to achieve sustainable development, through initiatives such as green growth / green economy, has now become a crucial issue. Though the three countries have greatly varying economic and social conditions, they share the common task of having to address national, regional and global environmental issues taking into account their national circumstances.

2 Thus, the inaugural Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan (TEMM) was held in 1999, to launch the three countries' cooperative efforts for the environment. To date, the three countries have promoted and implemented cooperation, including information exchange, joint research, and joint projects, etc., regarding various domestic, regional and global environment issues. These efforts have played a major role in the region's environmental management and made contributions to improving the global environment.

3 At the TEMM 11 which was held in Beijing, China in June 2009, the Environment Ministers from the three countries reached an agreement on the ten priority cooperation areas for future tripartite environment cooperation as referred to hereinafter. The leaders of the three countries met at the Second China-Japan-ROK Summit Meeting held in Beijing in October 2009, and released the Joint Statement on Sustainable Development among the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, in which the leaders endorsed the ten priority

cooperation areas and encouraged the Environment Ministers of the three countries to develop a joint action plan in the stated ten priority areas for adoption at the TEMM 12 in 2010. Following this instruction, the Environment Ministers of the three countries met at the TEMM 12 in Hokkaido, Japan on 23 May 2010 and adopted this Action Plan, and will report it to the Third Tripartite Leaders Summit to seek its endorsement.

2. Vision and Scope

4 The Environment Ministers of the three countries shall:

- Honor the commitment made by the leaders of the three countries as manifested in the Joint Statement for Tripartite Partnership and Action Plan for Promoting Trilateral Cooperation among the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea adopted at the first Trilateral Summit Meeting December 2008, and the Joint Statement on Sustainable Development among the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea adopted at the second Trilateral Summit Meeting in October 2009;
- Share the understanding that Northeast Asia is one Environmental Community;
- Make efforts to ensure that environmental protection is mainstreamed into measures for economic development of the three countries, with the recognition that these efforts are common global, regional, and national tasks and opportunities;
- Emphasize the necessity for stronger tripartite cooperation among the three countries for environmental conservation, under the principle of openness, transparency, mutual trust, common benefit and respect for cultural diversity;
- Share the common concept that cooperation by the three countries for environmental conservation is a key to addressing environmental issues in Northeast Asia, and complements wider regional cooperation frameworks such as ASEAN Plus Three and the East Asian Summit (EAS), as well as enhances the synergies among these frameworks and promotes further progress; and
- Stipulate this Action Plan in the following ten priority

areas of environmental cooperation among Korea, China, and Japan for the period 2010 – 2014:

- (1) Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation;
- (2) Climate Change;
- (3) Biodiversity Conservation;
- (4) Dust and Sandstorms (DSS);
- (5) Pollution Control;
- (6) Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society;
- (7) Transboundary movement of E-Waste;
- (8) Sound Management of Chemicals;
- (9) Environmental Governance in Northeast Asia; and
- (10) Environmental Industries and Technologies

5 The aim of this Action Plan is to present specific plans for cooperative activities in the aforementioned ten areas, which are described in Chapter 2.

3. Strategic Approaches

6 The three countries will advance their cooperation for the environment in the ten priority areas, taking into account the character and historical background of the issues in each area, based on one, two or all of the following approaches: i) information collection/sharing; ii) research-oriented approaches and iii) action-oriented approaches.

7 In the areas in which the existing cooperation framework has sufficiently matured, the action oriented approach will be the focus. In the areas where cooperation is newly started, the initial focus will be on information collecting and sharing and/or research-oriented approach(es), followed by an action-oriented approach built upon their achievements.

4. Implementation Arrangement

8 The Environment Ministers of the three countries shall oversee the general progress and achievements of the Action Plan, taking opportunities such as TEMM, and provide guidance.

9 The respective director generals of the three Ministries shall periodically review the state of progress and achievements of the activities at occasions such as the TEMM Director Generals Meeting and report the results of the review to the TEMM.

10 A TEMM Working-Level Meeting shall be established under the TEMM Director Generals Meeting, with members from the division and/or office responsible for TEMM administration in the respective Environment Ministries of the three countries, which shall oversee routine communications and other business concerning cooperation among the implementing agencies in the three countries.

11 This Action Plan shall be reviewed and updated as required according to the state of progress of future cooperation.

12 The Action Plan will be implemented jointly by the implementing agencies in collaboration with the TEMM focal points.

13 Resources necessary for the implementation will be jointly contributed by the three countries taking into account their national circumstances.

14 The TEMM website will continue to be operated as an information dissemination tool for TEMM activities.

Chapter 2: Action Plan in the Cooperation Priority Areas in 2010 – 2014

1. Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation

(Objectives)

15 As the foundation of regional and domestic actions regarding environmental issues, the three countries will advance their cooperation in environmental education, raising environmental awareness and promoting public participation. At the same time, the three countries will nurture awareness of a common environmental community since Korea, China, and Japan share a common physical and biological environment, and must tackle environmental issues collaboratively.

(Activities)

16 The three countries agreed to collaborate on the creation of the Environmental Education Readers from 2010. The three countries value the achievements of the 2009 Youth Meeting held in Japan in preparation



for building a network of the environmental youth groups in the three countries. This Youth Meeting will be hosted annually by each of the three countries in turn. The three countries will continue promoting cooperation including the Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN) and the environmental training for the officials of the three countries.

2. Climate Change

(Objectives)

17 The three countries reaffirm their commitment to the objectives and principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, in particular, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and will work together to promote the full and effective and sustained implementation of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol.

(Activities)

18 The three countries welcome the outcome of the COP15/CMP5, and agree to work constructively together towards a positive outcome at the COP16/CMP6 in Cancun at the end of 2010.

19 Recognizing the scientific view that the increase in the global temperature should be below 2 degrees Celsius, on the basis of equity and sustainable development, the three countries should take cooperative action to promote the exchange of information on policies and actions among them on mitigation and adaptation to climate change, share knowledge and best practices, promote the joint development and the transfer of climate-friendly technologies, facilitate cost-effective, project-based, and mutually-beneficial cooperative activities that contribute to greenhouse gas emission reductions, and evaluate the effects of the cooperative projects on emission reductions in an appropriate manner.

20 The three countries will exchange information, starting from 2010, on each nation's policy and experience on a co-benefits approach, which aims to address both climate change and environmental problems, utilizing existing international networks whenever appropriate.

21 The three countries will make efforts towards the realization of Green Growth and a Low-Carbon Society and will promote green and low-carbon development based on each country's national circumstances, such as (i) a "Green Economic Policy" seminar in 2010 hosted by China and (ii) commencing joint research on Green Growth and a Low-Carbon Society.

3. Biodiversity Conservation

(Objectives)

22 The three countries recognize the serious impact on the ecosystems in Northeast Asia resulting from the pressure of urbanization commonly seen in the region; population growth and decline, as well as aging; and will strengthen efforts to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

(Activities)

23 The three countries will cooperate for the success of; the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD/COP10), scheduled to be held in Nagoya City, Aichi, Japan in October 2010; will support the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress, which will be held at Jeju Island, Korea in 2012; and will lead global endeavors towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

24 The three countries will formulate and promote trilateral joint actions such as joint research on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through collaborative initiatives in international and regional platforms such as the Satoyama Initiative, Asia Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (AP-BON), and East and Southeast Asia Biodiversity Information Initiative (ESABII), etc.; and will utilize such platforms to deepen cooperation in the area of biodiversity conservation.

4. Dust and Sandstorms (DSS)

(Objectives)

25 The three countries, with the aim of promoting regional cooperation on Dust and Sandstorms (DSS) policies in Northeast Asia, will cooperate in the establishment of DSS monitoring and early warning networks, and DSS prevention and control.

(Activities)

26 The three countries will continue to advance the DSS joint research begun in 2008, and will share the data and knowledge more deeply. Specifically, the three countries will promote joint research analyzing success factors for ecosystem restoration of desertified areas, develop DSS forecasting models, conduct joint research to improve their accuracy, and improve cooperation regarding sharing of data on typical dust storm events.

5. Pollution Control

(Objectives)

27 The three countries will prevent atmospheric and other environmental pollution in the region, and will protect the aquatic and marine environments.

(Activities)

28 The three countries will cooperate closely, involving the remaining country, to enhance activities of Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) under the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP), inter alia, to strengthen joint-workshops and activities to raise awareness and promote research cooperation for sharing the scientific knowledge, including that which would improve the understanding of all countries in the region regarding the marine litter generation mechanism, with a view to managing the generation of marine litter.

29 The three countries will hold workshops in order to identify and build mutual understanding regarding the mechanisms of ozone pollution, and start discussions on the implementation of concrete research cooperation in 2010.

30 The three countries will undertake collaborative initiatives in the Asian regional forums for pollution control, such as the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA), the Regional EST (Environmentally Sustainable Transport) Forum in Asia, and the Workshop on Reduction of Unintentional POPs (Persistent Organic Pollutants) in East Asian Countries, as well as share information and utilize such forums to improve and protect the environment in the three countries.

6. Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society

(Objectives)

31 The three countries will strengthen cooperation in policy development as well as in technical cooperation, towards building an Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society.

(Activities)

32 The three countries will continue advancing policy discussions in the "Sound Material-Cycle Society/Circular Economy/3R" Seminars and the development of China-Japan-Korea 3R Information Sharing System, and sharing best practices and knowledge concerning 3R.

7. Transboundary Movement of E-Waste

(Objectives)

33 The three countries will prevent illegal transboundary movement of e-waste and promote environmentally sound management of e-waste in order to protect human health and the environment.

(Activities)

34 The three countries will cooperatively take the initiative regarding the existing regional organizations such as Basel Convention Coordinating Center for Asia and the Pacific, and existing projects in Asia, including the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and the Basel Convention Partnership on the Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Wastes for Asia Pacific Region. In addition to keeping the close communication and information sharing among officials, the three countries will promote cooperation on e-waste management through information exchange on management and control of the transboundary movement of e-waste, as well as interexchange of experts.

8. Sound Management of Chemicals

(Objectives)

35 The three countries will promote information exchange on chemical management policies and their regulation, and prevent significant adverse effects on human health and environment caused by



chemicals through proper operation of chemical management systems in each country.

(Activities)

36 The three countries will continuously hold the Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among Korea, China, and Japan to exchange information on the recent trends of chemical management policies and to strengthen cooperation in the field of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), test methods and risk assessment of chemicals.

9. Environmental Governance in Northeast Asia

(Objectives)

37 The three countries will create a long term vision for cooperation between the governments of the three countries and the concerned stakeholders in order to strengthen environmental governance (capacities and mechanisms of environmental management) in Northeast Asia.

(Activities)

38 The three countries will commence in 2010 joint research on environmental governance in Northeast Asia including establishing an experts group, and joint research on the assessment of environmental impacts that accompany the development of the economic relationships among the three countries.

39 The National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER) in Korea, the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES) and the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) in Japan, utilizing the opportunity of their annual Tripartite President Meeting, are encouraged to collaborate for the purpose of expanding environmental research capacities through discussions and joint workshops.

10. Environmental Industries and Technology

(Objectives)

40 The three countries will promote environmental industries and research and development on environmental technologies in order to develop

measures to protect the environment that do not compromise economic growth, and in order to realize Green Growth.

(Activities)

41 The three countries will continue to promote the exchange of experts, researchers and administration officers through the Tripartite Environmental Industry Roundtable; and to advance the sharing of knowledge concerning green purchasing, eco-labelling, environmental management, and environmental technology. The three countries will promote information sharing on verification of environmental technologies.

Hokkaido, 23 May 2010.

LEE Maanee
Minister, Ministry of Environment
Republic of Korea

ZHOU Shengxian,
Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection
People's Republic of China

OZAWA Sakihito
Minister, Ministry of the Environment
Japan

Progress of TEMM





Phase I: TEMM 1 - 10

The Development of TEMM

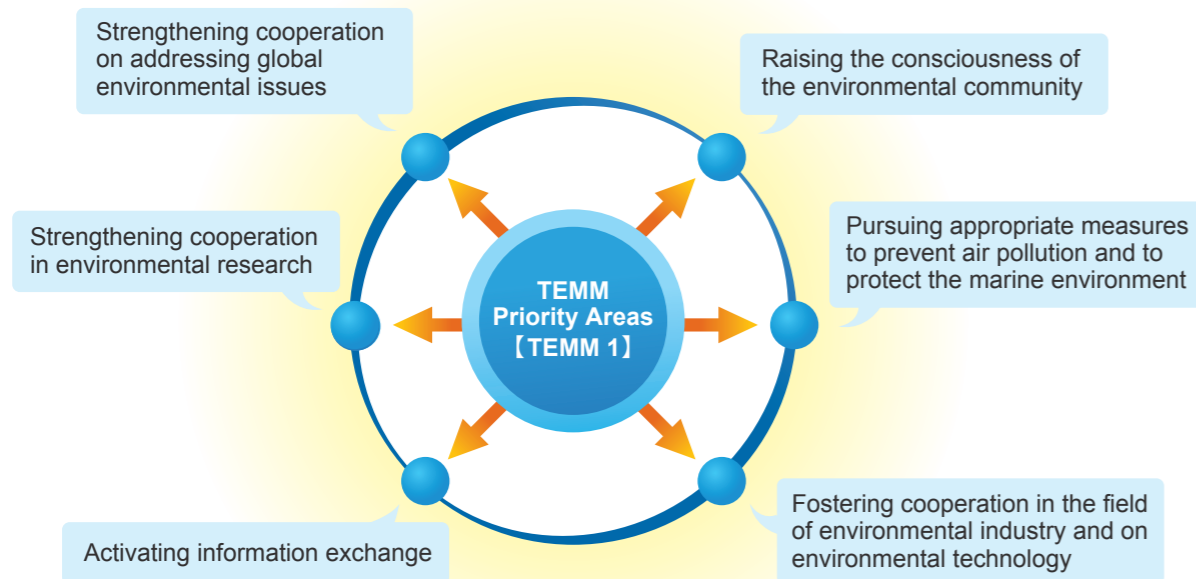
Since the birth of TEMM in 1999, a series of tripartite ministers meetings have developed its frameworks as to strengthen the trilateral cooperation and make environmental impacts in Northeast Asia.

In February 2000, the environmental ministers of China, Japan, and Korea met in Beijing for the Second Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) and agreed to move forward projects called Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting Projects (TEMM Projects) focusing on five areas: 1) raising the consciousness of the environmental community, 2) prevention of fresh water (lake) pollution, 3) prevention of land-based marine pollution, 4) cooperation in the environmental industry, and 5) ecological conservation of North-west China. These projects have been identified and being developed or implemented to date.

Major outcomes during the first phase of TEMM development (TEMM1-TEMM10) are:

- Strengthened the consciousness of the environmental community and capacity for combating environmental challenges
- Established implementation mechanism for promoting environmental cooperation projects
- Contributed to regional and global community for addressing environmental issues

TEMM 6 Priority Areas



The 1st Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting



1999 | Seoul, Korea

Objective	The Ministers of Environment from China, Japan, and Korea as leading countries in Northeast Asia met together to exchange the views on environmental cooperation to address global environmental issues and to strengthen the cooperative relationship.
Date & Venue	Date: 13 January, 1999 Venue: The Westin Chosun Hotel, Seoul, Korea
List of Participants	<p>Mr. CHOI Jae-wook, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Mr. MANABE Kenji, Minister of the Environment Agency of Japan</p> 

The 2nd Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting



2000 | Beijing, China

Overview	The Ministers agreed to contribute to the success of important regional and global environmental meetings, including the 4th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED), and the comprehensive review of Agenda 21 to be scheduled in 2002.
Date & Venue	Date: 26-27 February, 2000 Venue: Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, Beijing, China
List of Participants	<p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Ms. SHIMIZU Kayoko, Minister of the Environment Agency of Japan</p> <p>Mr. KIM Myung Ja, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> 



The 3rd Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2001 | **Tokyo, Japan**

Overview	The Ministers exchanged views on recent progress in environmental management in their respective countries and in the Northeast Asian region. The Ministers noted with great pleasure the high recognition given to the progress of TEMM by the Trilateral Meeting of the Leaders of Korea, China, and Japan which was held in November 2000.
Date & Venue	Date: 7-8 April, 2001 Venue: Hotel Okura, Tokyo, Japan
List of Participants	<p>Ms. KAWAGUCHI Yoriko, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> <p>Ms. KIM Myung Ja, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> 

The 5th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2003 | **Beijing, China**

Overview	The Ministers are encouraged by the Joint Declaration on the Promotion of the Tripartite Cooperation among the three countries, signed by leaders of the three countries in Bali last October. In the field of environmental cooperation, they also recalled the significance attached to TEMM for its leading role in the regional environmental cooperation by the leaders of the three countries at the 2001 Trilateral Summit.
Date & Venue	Date: 13-14 December, 2003 Venue: Beijing Hotel, Beijing, China
List of Participants	<p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Ms. KOIKE Yuriko, Minister of the Environment Ministry of Japan</p> <p>Ms. HAN Myeong Sook, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> 

The 4th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2002 | **Seoul, Korea**

Overview	The Ministers observed that environmental protection will be key to shaping the course of the 21st century. In this vein, they anticipated that the international community will make significant efforts to achieve sustainable development. The Ministers agreed that providing information on TEMM to other regional and global environmental meetings would prove valuable to the international environmental endeavor.
Date & Venue	Date: 20-21 April, 2002 Venue: The Westin Chosun Hotel, Seoul, Korea
List of Participants	<p>Ms. KIM Myung Ja, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Mr. OHKI Hiroshi, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> 

The 6th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2004 | **Tokyo, Japan**

Overview	The Ministers reemphasized their common view that TEMM was an important meeting for encouraging regional environmental cooperation and sustainable development and exchanged their opinions on the progress of the environmental actions which had been made recently in each country and in the North East Asian subregion.
Date & Venue	Date: 4-5 December, 2004 Venue: Mita-Kaigisyo, Tokyo, Japan
List of Participants	<p>Ms. KOIKE Yuriko, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> <p>Mr. KWAK Kyul Ho, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> 



The 7th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2005 | Seoul, Korea

Overview	The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 6. They welcomed the outline of China's next five-year plan that clearly expresses the intention to establish an environmentally-friendly society based on the "Scientific Outlook on Development". They assured that the three countries would continue to work together on various regional issues.
Date & Venue	Date: 22-23 October, 2005 Venue: Shilla Hotel, Seoul, Korea
List of Participants	<p>Mr. LEE Jae Yong, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Ms. KOIKE Yuriko, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> 

The 9th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2007 | Toyama, Japan

Overview	The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 8. They welcomed the "Environmental Strategy for the 21st Century" put forward by Japan, the "National Strategy for Sustainable Development" by Korea, and strategic thought of "applying Scientific Outlook on Development to build up an environmentally-friendly society" by China, all three of which clearly express the intention to integrate environmental protection into economic and social development.
Date & Venue	Date: 4-6 December, 2007 Venue: ANA Crown Plaza Hotel Toyama, Toyama, Japan
List of Participants	<p>Mr. KAMOSHITA Ichiro, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> <p>Mr. LEE Kyo-Yong, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. LI Ganjie, Vice Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> 

The 8th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2006 | Beijing, China

Overview	The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 7. They welcomed the "Three Transformations for China's Environmental Protection under the New Situation" put forward by China, "Integrated Improvement of the Environment, Economy and Society" by Japan and "the Comprehensive National Environmental Plan" by Korea that clearly express the intention to integrate environmental protection into economic and social development.
Date & Venue	Date: 2-3 December, 2006 Venue: Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, Beijing, China
List of Participants	<p>Mr. ZHOU Shengxian, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Mr. WAKABAYASHI Masatoshi, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> <p>Mr. LEE Chi-Beom, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> 

The 10th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2008 | Jeju, Korea

Overview	The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 9. They welcomed the "Environmental Policy Directions & Tasks for Green Growth & Higher Quality of life" by Korea, the efforts of "pollution abatement" and "rehabilitating the ecologically vulnerable rivers and lakes" guided by the "Scientific Outlook on Development" by China, and the "Clean Asia Initiative" and the "Action Plan for Low-Carbon Society," all three of which clearly express the intention to integrate environmental protection into economic and social development.
Date & Venue	Date: 1-3 December, 2008 Venue: Jeju International Convention Center, Lotte Hotel Jeju, Korea
List of Participants	<p>Mr. LEE Maanee, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. ZHOU Shengxian, Minister of the Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Mr. SAITO Tetsuo, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> 



Phase II: TEMM 11-

A New Era of Tripartite Partnership

TEMM 11 has symbolized the new era of TEMM history. The leaders of the three countries at the Trilateral Summit in Fukuoka, Japan in Dec, 2008, called for “a new era of tripartite partnership which will lead to the peace and sustainable development in the region” supported by the Joint Statement for Tripartite Partnership, and recognized the role TEMM played as an important constituent of the Trilateral Summit. Given that considerable progress had been made under TEMM on the 6 priority areas in the last 10 years, the TEMM framework has entered into a new phase of making environmental impacts in the region.

The three countries approved the following 10 areas as new priority cooperation areas in the coming 5 years in accordance with the new situation and out common concern. The leaders of the three countries also supported the jointly compiling of the “Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation”.

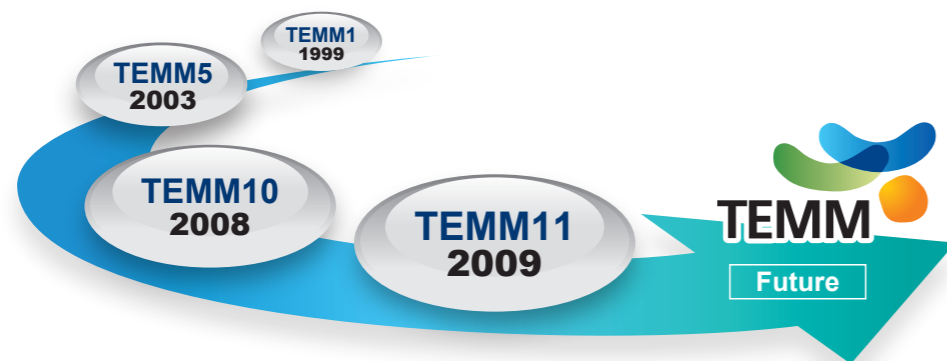
Cooperation Priority Areas 2009-2014

- Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation
- Climate Change (Co-benefits Approaches, Low Carbon Society, Green Growth, etc.)
- Biodiversity Conservation
- DSS (Dust and Sandstorms)
- Pollution Control (Air, Water, Marine Environment etc.)
- Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society
- Transboundary Movement of E-Waste
- Sound Management of Chemicals
- Environmental Governance in Northeast Asia
- Environmental Industries and Technolog

The Way Forward

Based on cooperation principles of openness, transparency, mutual trust, common interest and respect for our diverse cultures, the three countries will:

- promote environmental-sound development in Asia;
- draft and implement the Tripartite Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation;
- make great efforts to realize the Green Economy by strengthening the environment cooperation in Northeast Asia.



The 11th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2009 | Beijing, China

Overview	The Ministers shared their views on the progress of tripartite cooperation during the past decade since TEMM 1. They reached consensus that TEMM was of vital importance in promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in the Region. They expressed appreciation for the achievements on priority areas in the last 10 years.
Date & Venue	Date: 13-14 June, 2009 Venue: Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, Beijing, China
List of Participants	<p>Mr. ZHOU Shengxian, Minister of the Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Mr. SAITO Tetsuo, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> <p>Mr. LEE Maanee, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> 

The 12th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

2010 | Chitose and Tomakomai, Hokkaido, Japan

Objective	The Ministers reaffirmed that TEMM plays an important role in promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in the Northeast Asia. The Ministers adopted the Tripartite Action Plan on Environmental Protection for 2010 - 2014 on 10 priority areas and agreed to cooperate in order to develop and achieve the goals stated in the Action Plan.
Date & Venue	Date: 22-23 May, 2010 Venue: Hotel Mizuno-uta, Chitose and Hotel Nidom, Tomakomai, Hokkaido, Japan
List of Participants	<p>Mr. LEE Maanee, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea</p> <p>Mr. ZHOU Shengxian, Minister of the Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>Mr. OZAWA Sakihito, Minister of the Environment of Japan</p> 

TEMM projects and activities





TEMM Website

2000 -

Objective

The objectives of TEMM Website are to widely raise public awareness about philosophy and significance of TEMM and to present the results of TEMM to the world.



Background

The TEMM website project was proposed at the 2nd TEMM (Feb 2000, Beijing). The results of the discussion included the following:

1. In principle, the participants recognize the necessity that the TEMM website should make progress in the future.
2. The website provides general information on the progress of TEMM and its projects, as well as other relevant information.
3. The contents will be developed by the Implementation Group (IG).
4. Other specific information can be delivered by linking existing relevant websites of each country.
5. Republic of Korea takes responsibility for drafting the basis guidelines for the operation and contents of the TEMM website.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

The National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER) of Korea has a central role in creating the official TEMM website with the Japanese and Chinese cooperation in order to disseminate the results of Tripartite Environment Ministers Meetings. The site provides information including TEMM Joint Communiqués and other documents, and reports on the progress of TEMM Projects. The information is updated on a regular basis, and extensive links to environmental organization sites including Chinese, Japanese and Korean national environmental research institutions are provided.

Main Results

The site has been fully upgraded in July 2004 with a new interface design that integrates environmental themes with symbolic features of the three countries. Furthermore, the site introduces links to individual project focal points, as means to provide an easier access to more detailed information on each TEMM project.



Joint Environmental Training Project

2001 -

Objective

Since 2001, joint training programs have been carried out every year with the objectives of: (1) learning common environmental problems in Northeast Asia and to explore ways of cooperation to solve them, (2) promoting exchange of environmental policies in Korea, China, and Japan, and (3) establishing an international network for environmental information exchange.

Background

The TEMM Joint Environmental Training Project is the joint projects implemented by Korea, China, and Japan, following the agreement that there is a need to raise consciousness of the three countries as “an environmental community.” To meet this goal, the training program will promote the sharing of information and awareness on current environmental issues and measures in the three countries with the respective central and local government administrators who are responsible for environmental matters.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

The first training was held in November, 2001, and the training has been convened annually by the three countries in rotation.

Implementing agencies of the three countries are the following:

- Center for Environmental Education and Communication, Ministry of Environment Protection of China
- National Institute of Environmental Human Resources Development, Ministry of Environment of Korea
- National Environmental Research and Training Institute, Ministry of the Environment of Japan

Main Results

ETP	Year	Hosting Country	Dates	Theme
1st	2001	Japan	11.26-12.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of administrative structure and job description regarding environmental administration in Korea, China, and Japan • Current state and issues on the freshwater contamination
2nd	2002	Korea	12.02-12.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water management Issue & Measure • Air quality management Issue & Measure • Solid waste management Issue & Measure
3rd	2003	China	12.01-12.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Water quality management • Urban Solid waste management • International cooperation on environmental protection in Northeast Asia
4th	2004	Japan	11.21-11.27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling-based society (Waste disposal and recycling) • Global-Warming prevention measurement
5th	2005	Korea	11.20-11.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The urban air pollution control • The Sound Material-Cycle Society
6th	2006	China	11.20-11.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and regulation on recyclable economy (3R) • Measurement of nature conservation and ecosystem rehabilitation
7th	2007	Japan	11.25-12.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical substances management • Raising the public awareness on environmental Protection
8th	2008	Korea	11.24-11.29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on waste-to-energy and waste recycling • Policy on waste-to-energy • Environmentally-friendly waste management, including 3R
9th	2009	China	11.23-11.27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation and promotion of sustainable use of biodiversity • The policy, laws and regulations on conservation and promotion of sustainable use of biodiversity • Public aware and education on conservation and promotion of sustainable use of biodiversity



2009 Group discussion (Sino-Japan Friendship Centre for Environmental Protection)



2009 Site tour (Milu Park, Nanhai, Beijing)



Tripartite Environmental Education Network [TEEN]

2000 -

Objective

In this project, the persons concerned with environmental education such as environmental education experts regularly meet and exchange information about environmental education. to promote the environmental education network among the three countries as well as to contribute to raising the consciousness of the environmental community.



TEEN 2009

Background

The three countries agreed to establish and promote a tripartite cooperation project to raise the consciousness of the environmental community at TEMM2 in 2000 held at Beijing. Following this agreement, the Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN) was established among the three countries as a concrete project especially to raise the consciousness of the environmental community at the grass-roots level.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

The three countries have held workshops and symposiums every year. The participants from the three countries, for example, environmental education experts, teachers, and NGO representatives, discuss and exchange views on environmental education initiatives.



TEEN 2009



TEEN 2009

Main Results

TEEN	Year	Hosting Country	Theme
1st	2000	Japan	Workshop(W1): Report from Korea, China, and Japan (Current status of environmental education in each country and case report) W2: Implementation and challenges of environmental education W3: Formation of environmental education network and its importance W4: Plans for activities for the establishment of environmental education network Symposium (S): Panel discussion "education network for tomorrow"
2nd	2001	China	W1: Government's involvement/contribution in the area of environmental education W2: Approaches and ideas to be taken for introducing environmental education in formal education W3: Environmental education activities involved with partnership S: Case report " Current status of environmental education in each country"
3rd	2002	Korea	W: Environmental education focused on local and river in the three countries S: Current situations of the local environmental education of each country
4th	2003	Japan	W1: Toward further promotion and concrete comparison of environmental education among the three countries: considering the UN Decade of UNESD W2: Ecotourism and environmental education: current status and challenges S: Environmental conservation and education at local level; Sharing the experiences and lessons among Korea, China, and Japan
5th	2004	China	W1: The policy on Environmental Education Program for Children (EEPC) in three countries W2: EEPC cases S: Local experience on promotion of EEPC by three countries
6th	2005	Korea	W1: Presentation for the result of application of "White-naped Crane", "Recycle" and "River Program" Policy on EEPC in three countries W2: Environmental education in industry and business S1: The role of schools for UNESD S2: The role of schools for recycling society
7th	2006	Japan	W1: Cases of environmental education youth program W2: Town building / local community development centered on environmental education S: Environmental education in coastal regions of three countries
8th	2007	China	W1:Environmental education for urban clean air for sustainable city W2:Networking on environmental education in Korea, China, and Japan S: Environmental education for urban clean air for sustainable city
9th	2008	Korea	W1: The future direction of TEEN among three countries W2: The activation of the three countries' environmental education exchange S1: Young environmental education leaders
10th	2010	Japan	W&S: Environmental leaders development in higher education through multi-stakeholder partnership



Tripartite Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry

2001 -

Objective

The roundtable meeting aims at promoting cooperation through information exchange on environment-related industry, technology, and development. The roundtable is held every year in order to achieve economic growth in harmony with the environment through cooperation of the three nations. Experts, institutions and government officials exchange information and experiences of policy implementation and pursue joint projects.

Background

Based on the mutual agreement at the first TEMM in 1999 to cooperate in the field of environmental industry and environmental technology, the first 'Tripartite Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry' was held in Seoul, Korea in 2001, and has since been convened annually by the three countries in rotation.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

Experts, researchers, and administrative personnel participate in the meetings to share experiences of each country by discussing the issues of green purchasing, eco-labeling, environmental management, and exchange of environmental industrial technology in order to cooperate in these areas.

Main Results

RTM	Year	Hosting Country	Theme
1st	2001	Korea	Future outlook for eco Industry and development strategy toward the 21st century
2nd	2002	Japan	1. Eco industry, now and the future; the way forward 2. Greening of business activities 3. Role of green investment and technology for sustainable development
3rd	2003	China	1. Circular economy and ecological industrial park 2. Green investment/financing and eco industry development 3. Environment-friendly products and consumers
4th	2004	Korea	1. Latest available environmental technologies and policies – for hazardous waste treatment 2. Sustainable corporate strategies and policy tools 3. Eco-labelling and green purchasing
5th	2005	Japan	1. Green purchasing 2. Promotion of environment management systems to SMEs 3. Labelling certification system
6th	2006	China	1. Green purchasing 2. Common certification standards for eco-mark system in the three countries 3. Sharing of environmental technologies 4. Promotion of environment management systems to SMEs
7th	2007	Korea	1. Corporate environment management 2. Eco-labelling 3. Environmental industry and technology 4. Green purchasing
8th	2008	Japan	1. Green procurement 2. Environmental management 3. Eco-labelling 4. Environmental industry
9th	2009	China	1. Green purchasing 2. Environmental finance 3. Eco-labelling and MRA-based certification 4. Environmental industry and environmental technology communication



2009 meeting (group photo)



Tripartite circular economy /3R/ Sound Resource Recycle Society Seminar

2005 -

Objective

The three countries attempt to promote environmental cooperation by holding seminars on sound material cycle society, 3R, and circular economy under TEMM. The three countries exchange information and implement joint projects in these areas through the seminars.



2009 A group photo



2009 A scene from the seminar

Background

At the 2004 TEMM held at Tokyo, China proposed holding a symposium on the circular economy; it was agreed to start a study on the promotion of the circular economy in the TEMM framework. Accordingly, a circular economy symposium was held in Beijing on September 8 and 9, 2005, which was succeeded by circular economy/3R seminars and has been convened annually by the three countries in rotation.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

The three countries hold 3R/circular economy seminar and invites government officials, researchers, private business experts from Korea, China, and Japan involved with 3Rs, Sound Resource Recycle Society or Circular Economy. The three countries report and exchange views on the current status of waste management and identify challenges for information sharing in order to establish information sharing system among the three countries.

Main Results

Year	Venue	Themes	Site tour
2006	Tokyo, Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roles of actors for 3R promotion Cooperation among municipalities, business and citizens for 3R promotion Effective methods of community-level 3Rs and future cooperation 	Kawasaki Eco-town
2007	Ulsan, Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of industrial waste Reuse/recycling by business and by municipalities Trilateral cooperation strategies for 3R promotion (creation of an information sharing system was agreed.) 	Methane gas recovery system of an SK Group waste disposal site and others
2008	* Originally planned to be held in China, but cancelled due to the organizational reform in the Chinese government(delete). Instead, the preparatory meeting on solid waste management/3R information sharing system was held in Japan.		
2008	Qingdao, China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory system for circular economy/3Rs Eco-town (ecological industrial zone) Information sharing system for waste management/3Rs) 	Qingdao Eco-town
2009	Tokyo, Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3R/Resource Recycle Society and low-carbon society Efforts on E-waste and Hg-containing waste in each country 3R/Circular Economy activities of TEMM 	Re-Tem Corporation, Tokyo Waterfront Recycle Power Co., Ltd.



Tour (Re-Tem) 2009



Tour (Tokyo Waterfront Recycle Power) 2009



Joint Research on Dust and Sandstorms

2007 -

Objective

The research aims to promote regional cooperation on measures to mitigate dust and sandstorms (DSS) in Northeast Asia, taking into consideration recently increasing damages caused by DSS.



Tripartite Director General Meeting on DSS (September 18, 2007)



Preparatory meeting for TEMM working group (September 17, 2007)

Background

The 8th TEMM held at Beijing in December 2006 agreed to hold a tripartite director general meeting to discuss specific measures of regional cooperation to address DSS problems in northeast Asia. Following this agreement, the first tripartite director general meeting on DSS was held in Ulsan, Korea in March 2007. It was agreed that they would meet annually to promote policy dialogue on DSS and that a steering committee and working groups should be set up to implement a joint study on the DSS issue.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

The main activities on the Tripartite Joint Research on DSS:

Working Group 1: "The establishment of DSS monitoring and early warning system"

- Sharing of observed data and comparison on the outcomes of model estimate of one DSS incidence (March 29 – April 3, 2007)
- Addition of a new case study (May 24 – June 4, 2008) and enhancement of shared data
- A joint field campaign was implemented in April 2009 (Baicheng, Jilin, China)
- Summary of outcomes (joint contribution to academic journals)

Working Group 2: "Prevention and Control of DSS"

- Listing of expert groups and information exchange in specified areas
- Collection of ecosystem restoration
- Knowledge creation through international seminars (case study on latest technologies, traditional techniques)

Main Results

	Year / Month	Hosting Country	Theme
1st	2007	Korea	1. Establishment of regular policy dialogues 2. Implementation of joint research 3. Promotion of early implementation and ensuring resources regarding ADB-GEF DSS project
2nd	2007	Japan	1. Report on progress of prevention and control of DSS 2. TOR for the Steering Committee and working groups
3rd	2008	Korea	1. Joint research activities 2. Future plans
4th	2009	China	1. Report on progress of joint researches 2. Discussion on future cooperation activities
5th	2010	Japan	1. Report on progress of joint researches 2. Future activities plans



January 2010 The 4th Steering Committee on DSS



Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among China, Japan and Korea

2007 -

Objective

The aim of this dialogue is to proceed information exchange regarding current policies and appropriate regulations on chemical management among the three countries, and to discuss the ways for future co-operation on chemicals management among the three countries.



2009 A scene from policy dialogue

Background

In recent years, as the import/export of chemicals and products containing chemicals in the Asia region, such as China and Korea, have increased. Thus, implementation of adequate chemical management policies in each country is crucially important to prevent the environmental adverse effects in East Asia. Furthermore, producers and importers of chemicals and products containing chemicals are highly concerned with compatibility among the chemicals management policies of the countries concerned.

In December 2006, 8th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM8) was held at Beijing, China. Three ministers agreed the proposal from Japan to proceed information exchange regarding policies and regulations on chemicals management in each country under Policy Dialogue.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

1. The First Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among China, Japan, and Korea (November 2007, Tokyo, Japan)

The three countries discussed the future matters regarding information exchange and cooperation related to chemical management. The three countries reported their current policies and common challenges on chemical management in each country, such as GHS (Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals), and agreed to promote further information exchange on these areas. GHS, in particular, the three countries agreed to hold expert meetings focusing on the in-depth information exchange.

2. The Second Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among China, Japan, and Korea (September 2008, Seoul, Korea)

The Government Officials Meeting (Director-General Level): The three countries exchanged the information on chemical management policies in each country and agreed on identifying a number of areas, in addition to GHS classification, where development of co-operation, continuous information exchange and efforts for harmonization would be fruitful. The possible areas were proposed as following:

- Responses to EU Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals(REACH)
- Regulation of production and use of chemicals
- Testing of chemicals for regulatory purposes (Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) and Chemicals Testing Methods)
- Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR)

The first GHS Expert Meeting: The first GHS Expert Meeting was held under the framework of Policy Dialogue. The three countries exchanged and shared information about each country's implementation of GHS. The three countries agreed to carry out the comparison studies on targeted areas such as legal status of GHS in existing regulations, classification process and classification results on selected chemicals. (Between Second and Third Policy Dialogue, the Second GHS Expert Meeting was held in Tokyo in March, 2009,).

3. The Third Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among China, Japan, and Korea (September 2009, Beijing, China)

The Government Officials Meeting (DG level): The three countries exchanged the information on the recent trend of chemicals management. They agreed on the necessity of strengthening cooperation in the areas of GLP and chemicals testing and risk assessment and recognized the importance of chemicals contained in products.

The third GHS Expert Meeting: The experts from three countries conducted discussion on differences of classification results and their potential causes. The three countries agreed to prepare a report of comparison study and to continue information exchange on GHS.



Overview of Activities

Main Results

Year	Hosting Country	Theme
1st	2007	Japan
2nd	2008	Korea
	2008	Japan
3rd	2009	China

Year	Hosting Country	Theme
1st	2007	Japan
2nd	2008	Korea
	2008	Japan
3rd	2009	China



2008 A scene from policy dialogue



2008 A Group Photo

Research Cooperation on Photochemical Oxidant [Ox]

2008 -

Objective

The research aims to promote research cooperation among the three countries in order to identify and form common understandings on the mechanisms of ozone pollution, with the aim to mitigate transboundary photochemical oxidant pollution in Northeast Asia.



A scene from the 2008 workshop

Background

The three countries agreed at TEMM 9 held in December 2007 to cooperate with each other on scientific research such as sharing the results of existing scientific research to contribute to the identification and formation of common understandings on the mechanisms of ozone pollution.

Overview of Activities

Main Activities

The First Tripartite Workshop on Scientific Research of Photochemical Oxidant (Japan)

- **Date:** Friday, September 5, 2008
- **Participants**
 - Japan: Ministry of the Environment, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, University of Tokyo, local public agencies, etc.
 - China: Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Peking University, etc.
 - Korea: Ministry of Environment, National Institute of Environmental Research, Seoul National University, etc.
 - Others: those concerned with the Convention on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollution

The Second Tripartite Workshop on Scientific Research of Photochemical Oxidant (Korea)

- **Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2009
- **Participants**
 - Japan: Ministry of the Environment, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology, etc.
 - Korea: Ministry of Environment, National Institute of Environmental Research, Seoul National University, etc.
 - Others



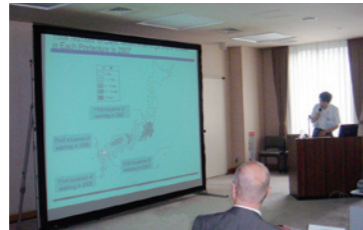
Overview of Activities

Main Results (Workshops on Scientific Research of Photochemical Oxidant)

Year	Hosting Country	Programme
1st	2008	Japan
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of measures to photochemical oxidant in Korea, China, and Japan • Overview of recent scientific research findings on photochemical oxidants (state of photochemical oxidant pollution; mechanism of generation and transportation; emissions of causative substances, etc.) • Discussion: Future cooperative research for the elucidation of mechanism of photochemical oxidant pollution on a regional scale
2nd	2009	Korea
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of measures to photochemical oxidant in Korea, China, and Japan • Overview of photochemical oxidant monitoring and its methods • Local and regional state of photochemical oxidant pollution • Discussion: Future cooperative research for the elucidation of mechanism of photochemical oxidant pollution on a regional scale



A scene from the 2008 workshop



A scene from the 2008 workshop

Other Projects

Freshwater (Lakes) Pollution Prevention Project 2000 -

The National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) of Japan, the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences (CRAES) and the National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER) of Korea are playing pivotal roles in this project that aims to promote research and technology development as well as the formulation of programs to research and draft common policies for freshwater pollution prevention. Past specific activities include: a joint study on freshwater (lakes) pollution prevention at Xi Hu (West Lake) and others in Hangzhou, China; a training program on lake management techniques supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and others; preparation of official guidelines (in English) of China, Japan, and Korea for the control measures of eutrophication. In addition, international symposia are held every year.



Joint Research Project on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP project) 1995 -

The Long-range Transboundary Air Pollutants (LTP) in North East Asia is an international joint research that has been conducted among Korea, China, and Japan. This joint research project aims to understand the state of air quality in Northeast Asia, laying a foundation for research on long-range transports, to develop the scientific basis for environmental decision-making, and ultimately to improve air quality in Northeast Asia.

The experts of LTP in Korea, China, and Japan have had an LTP expert meeting on an annual, by conducting joint research on LTP monitoring and modeling as well as emission inventory. Since 1995 when three countries had a workshop reaching a common understanding on a worsening of air quality in the region, they have held 12 times of official LTP expert meetings and one technical meeting. The meetings are attended by experts in monitoring and modeling and government officials from each country.



The 11th Expert Meeting Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution in Northeast Asia, 2008, Korea



Ecological Conservation in Northwest China

2000 - 2007

The northwestern area of China has been experiencing desertification in recent years as a result of water shortages, etc. Much attention is paid to frequent dust and sandstorms which has become exacerbated by droughts and land degradation in Northeast Asia. The project objective is to take joint action to deal with such situations.

E-waste workshop

In order to implement the consensus achieved during TEMM and promote tripartite exchange, communication and cooperation on trans-boundary movement of e-waste and e-waste management, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China organized the China-Japan-Korea Workshop on Control of E-waste Trans-boundary Movement and Tripartite Workshop on E-waste Management in Beijing on June 29th to 30th 2007 and November 26th 2008 respectively. During these two workshops, the three countries shared policies and regulations on environmental management of e-waste export and import and experiences on supervision and management of e-waste disposal enterprises; The participants also exchanged views on extended producer responsibility of electronics enterprises and trans-regional movement of e-waste.

Resources





A Chronological Table

Pre-TEMM Period

1971	July: "Environment Agency" was established (Japan).
1974	October: "Environmental Protection Leading Group of the State Council" was established (China).
1978	October: "Presidential Declaration of Nature Conservation Charter" was made (Korea).
1980	January: "Environment Administration" established (Korea).
1984	December: "National Environmental Protection Agency" established (China).
1985	February: "The First Meeting of Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific" held (Bangkok, Thailand). December: "Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer" entered into force.
1989	May: "The Council of Ministers for Global Environmental Conservation" established (Japan).
1990	January: "Environment Administration" upgraded to "Ministry of Environment" (Korea). October: "The Second Meeting of Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific" held (Bangkok, Thailand).
1991	June: "Ministerial Conference of Developing Countries on Environmental and Development" held (Beijing, China). July: "The First Environment Congress for Asia and the Pacific (ECO ASIA)" held (Tokyo, Japan).
1992	May: "Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal" entered into force. September: "Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage" entered into force. June "The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit)" held (Rio de Janeiro). * "Rio Declaration on Environment and Development" and "Agenda 21" adopted. October: "The First Meeting of the Northeast Asian Conference on Environmental Cooperation (NEAC)" held (Niigata, Japan).
1993	February: "The First Meeting of North- East Asian Subregional Programme of Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC)" was held (Seoul, Korea). June: "Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection" was signed and came into effect. October: "Agreement on Environmental Cooperation between China and Korea" signed and came into effect. December: "Convention on Biological Diversity" entered into force.
1994	March: "Agreement between the Government of People's Republic of China and the Government of Japan on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection" signed and came into effect. "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change" entered into force. September: "Action Plan for the Protection, Management, and Development of Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP)" adopted. December: "Basic Environment Plan" was decided by the Cabinet (Japan). "Ministry of Environment" was given greater authority (Korea).
1995	September: "The First Northeast Asian Workshop on Long-range Transboundary Pollutants (LTP)" (Seoul, Korea). November: "The Third Meeting of Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific" (Bangkok, Thailand).
1996	March: "The Asia- Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)" was established. December: "United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification" entered into force.
1997	June: "APEC Environmental Protection Center" established (Beijing, China). "UNGASS Special Session of the General Assembly to Review and Appraise the Implementation of Agenda 21" held (New York, U.S.A). December: "The Third Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Kyoto Conference on Global Warming) (COP3)" held (Kyoto).
1998	March: "Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asian" agreed to start preparatory-phase activities. June: "National Environmental Protection Agency" upgraded to "State Environmental Protection Administration" (China).

Ongoing TEMM

1999	January: TEMM1 [Seoul, Korea] Minister CHOI Jae-wook of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister XIE Zhenhua of the Ministry of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, and Minister MANABE Kenji of the Ministry of the Environment Agency of Japan had the first TEMM at Seoul, Korea on 13th January 1999 "Presidential Declaration of Nature Conservation Charter" was made (Korea).
2000	February: TEMM2 [Beijing, China] Minister XIE Zhenhua of the Ministry of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, Minister SHIMIZU Kayoko of the Ministry of the Environment Agency of Japan, and Minister KIM Myung Ja of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea had the second TEMM at Beijing, China from 26th to 27th February 2000. September: "The Fourth Meeting of Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific" will be held (Kitakyushu, Japan).
2001	January: "Environment Agency" was upgraded to "Ministry of the Environment" (Japan). April: TEMM3 [Tokyo, Japan] Minister KAWAGUCHI Yoriko of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister KIM Myung Ja of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, and Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China had the Third Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on April 7-8, 2001 in Tokyo, Japan.
2002	United Nations General Assembly concerning Comprehensive Review on the implementation of Agenda 21 (Rio +10) April: TEMM4 [Seoul, Korea] Minister KIM Myung Ja of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, and Minister OHKI Hiroshi of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan had the Fourth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on April 20-21, 2002 in Seoul, Korea.
2003	December: TEMM5 [Beijing, China] Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, Minister KOIKE Yuriko of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and the Minister HAN Myeong Sook of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea had the Fifth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on December 13-14, 2003, in Beijing, China.
2004	December: TEMM6 [Tokyo, Japan] Minister KOIKE Yuriko of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister KWAK Kyul Ho of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, and Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China had the Sixth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on December 4-5, 2004, in Tokyo, Japan.
2005	October: TEMM7 [Seoul, Korea] Minister LEE Jae Yong of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, and Minister KOIKE Yuriko of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan had the Seventh Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on October 22-23, 2005, in Seoul, Korea.
2006	December: TEMM 8 [Beijing, China] Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, Minister WAKABAYASHI Masatoshi of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, and Minister LEE Chi-Beom of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea had the Eighth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on December 2-3, 2006, in Beijing, China.
2007	December: TEMM 9 [Toyama, Japan] Minister KAMOSHITA Ichiro of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister LEE Kyoo-Yong of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, and Vice Minister LI Ganjie of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China had the Ninth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on December 4-6, 2007, in Toyama, Japan.
2008	December: TEMM10 [Jeju, Korea] Minister LEE Maanee of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the Ministry of the Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China and Minister SAITO Tetsuo of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan had the Tenth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on December 1-3, 2008, in Jeju, Korea
2009	June: TEMM 11 [Beijing, China] Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the Ministry of the Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China, Minister SAITO Tetsuo of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and Minister LEE Maanee of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea had the Eleventh Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on June 13-14, 2009, in Beijing, China.
2010	May: TEMM 12 [Chitose and Tomakomai, Japan] Minister LEE Maanee of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the Ministry of the Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China and Minister OZAWA Sakihito of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan had the Twelfth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on May 22-23, 2010, in Chitose and Tomakomai, Japan.



Joint Communiqué

The First Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Seoul, Republic of Korea | January 13, 1999

1 At the invitation of CHOI Jae-wook, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA) of the People's Republic of China and Minister MANABE Kenji of the Environment Agency of Japan visited Seoul, Korea, where they held the China-Japan-Korea Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on 13 January 1999. The Ministers also paid a courtesy call to H.E. President KIM Dae-jung at Chong Wa Dae.

2 The ministers expressed their concerns about ongoing environmental degradation in the Northeast Asian region resulting from the dynamic development of the region, despite individual nation's efforts to prevent environmental pollution. The ministers recognized that, as Korea, China and Japan are playing important roles in economic and environmental cooperation in the Northeast Asian region, close cooperation among the three nations is indispensable to sustainable development in Northeast Asia.

3 The ministers shared the view that the following areas of cooperation should be given priority: raising awareness that the three countries are in the same environmental community; activating information exchange; strengthening cooperation in environmental research; fostering cooperation in the field of environmental industry and on environmental technology; pursuing appropriate measures to prevent air pollution and to protect the marine environment; and strengthening cooperation on addressing global environmental issues such as biodiversity and climate change. They also expressed their intention to cooperate to tackle these issues.

4 The ministers reached common recognition that it is desirable to make use of the existing frameworks to maximum extent to implement the results of the meeting. However, they also resolved that, if the existing frameworks are inadequate, either

forming working groups or designating contact points would be appropriate for setting up action plans to implement the results of the meeting.

5 The ministers decided to promote raising awareness of the countries' environmental community" and fostering information exchange among the environmental agencies as the first initiatives of the TEMM, and they expressed their intention to actively promote: the exchange of personal and the enhancement of communication measures among the three environmental agencies, exchanges and cooperation between NGOs and research institutes, and exchanges and cooperation between local governments. The Ministers also expressed their intention to designate contact points for promoting these initiatives.

6 The Ministers shared views on the significant importance of addressing the issue of climate change and ensuring the early entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol through the widest possible cooperation by all countries. For this purpose, the Ministers reached common recognition to strengthen their domestic actions to the maximum possible extent, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities, respective capabilities, and their social and economic conditions.

7 The Ministers decided that they would hold the Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting every year in turn, and that they may meet in the hosting country or on the occasion of international forums attended by the three ministers. It was decided that the host for the second TEMM in 2000 would be determined at a later date through mutual consultation, and that the host country would notify the other countries of the time and venue. The Ministers confirmed that the agenda for the 2nd TEMM would be adopted after mutual consultation.

8 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the friendly atmosphere and fruitful outcome of the first meeting, which has greatly contributed to strengthening environmental cooperation among the

three countries. Minister XIE Zhenhua and Minister MANABE Kenji expressed their gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by the hosting country.

The Second Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Beijing, People's Republic of China | February 26-27, 2000

1 At the invitation of Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, Minister SHIMIZU Kayoko of the Environment Agency of Japan and Minister KIM Myung Ja of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea visited Beijing. The three Ministers met for the Second Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on 26-27 February 2000. The Ministers also paid a courtesy call to H.E. Premier Zhu Rongji at the State Guest House on 26 February 2000.

2 The Ministers reaffirmed the TEMM as an important forum for fostering regional environmental cooperation and sustainable development. The Ministers shared the view that they should contribute to the success of important regional and global environmental meetings, including the 4th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED), and the comprehensive review of Agenda 21 to be scheduled in 2002.

3 The Ministers noted that TEMM has produced positive effects. They shared the view on the importance of adopting appropriate methods and utilizing appropriate channels to further enhance the active role of TEMM in advancing environmental cooperation.

4 The Ministers reviewed the efforts made by the three countries, since the 1st TEMM in Seoul, in environmental protection, regional cooperation and the progress achieved in the 6 priority cooperation areas set out at the 1st TEMM. They noted that TEMM has promoted environmental cooperation at various levels and it is necessary to further promote exchanges and cooperation of various forms, including among central governments, local governments,

science and research institutes, industrial enterprises, and NGOs.

5 The Ministers also expressed their wishes to have more concrete project-style cooperation among their three countries in the above mentioned priority areas. They reaffirmed their wishes that the three countries would continue developing projects at working level, in particular projects to raise consciousness of the environmental community, fresh water (lake) pollution and land-based marine pollution prevention and cooperation in the field of environmental industry, about which the three countries have already initiated concept project proposals for cooperation.

6 The Ministers also discussed various issues of common concern, including air, water and marine pollution, biodiversity, combating desertification and climate change issues.

7 On the air pollution issue, the Ministers commended the efforts of the three countries in promoting the ongoing cooperation projects, such as Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), the three countries' joint research project on Long-range Transportation of Air Pollutants (LTP) and the establishment of a subregional center in the Republic of Korea for environmental pollution data monitoring and analysis. The Ministers expressed their hope that the three projects would go into a further step of implementation as planned.

8 On the marine environmental management issue, the Ministers recognized the importance of promoting various activities under the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP).



9 The Ministers noted with appreciation the progress made by their three countries in addressing climate change, and affirmed the common recognition that all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) should further strengthen their domestic efforts and international cooperation, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities, respective capabilities, and their social and economic conditions, in order to achieve its ultimate objective. The Ministers indicated their intention to make efforts for a successful outcome of the 6th Conference of Parties to UNFCCC and bring the Kyoto Protocol into force as early as possible.

10 On ecological and bio-diversity issues, the Ministers shared the recognition that habitat conservation and restoration of damaged ecosystems are essential for conserving bio-diversity, for which the collecting and sharing, as appropriate, of information on the fauna and flora are also important.

11 On the issue of water, the Ministers shared the recognition that sustainable water resources management, ensuring an environmentally-sound water cycle, securing safe water resources as a basis

for development, and enabling efficient water use, are regional as well as global concerns. In this context, joint cooperation on this issue could contribute to the global efforts and could bring a positive message to international environmental forums.

12 The Ministers decided that the next TEMM would be held in Japan. The date and venue will be proposed by the host country and then confirmed with the other countries. In addition, the Ministers shared the view that they would meet on the occasion of international forums attended by all three Ministers.

13 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the friendly atmosphere and the achievements of this year's meeting. Minister SHIMIZU Kayoko and Minister KIM Myung Ja expressed their gratitude to the host country for its kind and warm hospitality.

4 The Ministers reviewed the activities of the first cycle of TEMM and noted with appreciation that TEMM has contributed to facilitating mutual understanding and to promoting environmental cooperation among the three countries. They shared views on the importance of further promoting environmental awareness and cooperation by all players including central and local governments, research institutes, businesses and NGOs.

5 The Ministers reviewed project formation and implementation at the working level in five areas set out in the second TEMM, and noted the initial progress including the workshop on the environmental education network, creation of the TEMM web site and the technical workshop on ecological conservation in Northwest China, as well as progress made in the planning of projects in each prioritized area. They expressed their wishes to further promote TEMM projects. They also recognized that it is necessary to strengthen organizational and financial mechanisms for successful project implementation.

6 Responding to the request by the Trilateral Meeting of Leaders to relevant Ministers to report on environmental projects to the next Trilateral Meeting, the Ministers decided that they would report the initial achievements of the TEMM projects, and that they would further develop projects for promoting various exchange programmes on environmental awareness, for building networks of environmental industry and business and for ecological conservation in Northwest China, and report the results to the Meeting.

7 The Ministers also discussed various issues of common concern. Discussion covered both global issues, including climate change and preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), and regional issues, such as ecological conservation in Northwest China.

8 On climate change, the Ministers shared a strong concern about the seriousness of the situation. They reaffirmed the common recognition that all Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) should further strengthen their domestic efforts and international cooperation, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities, in order to

achieve its ultimate objective. The Ministers also shared the common recognition that a successful outcome of the resumed COP6 is vital for bringing the Kyoto Protocol into force as early as possible, which is an important step in human efforts on climate change. In this context, the Ministers sincerely hope that the US government will actively work with all the Parties to attain such a successful outcome.

9 On the WSSD, the Ministers shared the view that the comprehensive review of Agenda 21 by the WSSD in 2002 would play a crucial role in paving the way to sustainable development in the 21st century and that the three countries should contribute to ensure the successful outcome of the WSSD. They recognized the significance of regional efforts on developing innovative strategies toward the realization of sustainable development. They also expressed their expectation that the Asia-Pacific Eminent Persons Forum on Environment and Development will contribute to deliberation on sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific region.

10 The Ministers expressed great concern about the degradation of natural conditions in Northwest China and affirmed their determination to formulate and implement projects to address this concern as one of the TEMM projects, which are expected to contribute to ecological conservation in this area and in the entire Asian region, taking a step-by-step approach. The Ministers also shared the recognition that the three countries should promote cooperation for systematic studies on sand dust (yellow sand or kosa), which is exacerbated by soil degradation, in order to identify better ways to solve this problem.

11 On the air pollution issue, the Ministers expressed recognition that acid deposition is a common concern among the three countries. The Ministers commended the commencement of activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) on a regular basis from January 2001 and reaffirmed their intention to continue efforts to strengthen the basis of EANET and to discuss future EANET activities. They also recognized that monitoring capacity for acid deposition should be strengthened and possible ways to conduct a cooperative program in this regard should be explored. The Ministers

The Third Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Tokyo, Japan | April 7-8, 2001

1 At the invitation of Minister KAWAGUCHI Yoriko of Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister KIM Myung Ja of the Ministry of Environment of Korea and Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of China visited Tokyo for the Third Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on April 7-8, 2001. On this occasion, the Ministers paid a courtesy call to H.E. Prime Minister MORI Yoshiro.

2 The Ministers exchanged views on recent progress in environmental management in their respective countries and in the Northeast Asian region. The Ministers noted with great pleasure the high recognition given to the progress of TEMM by the Trilateral Meeting of the Leaders of Korea, China and Japan which was held in November 2000. They also welcomed the establishment of the Ministry of the

Environment of Japan in January 2001 as an event that indicated the increasing importance of environmental administration in Japan.

3 The Ministers stressed their recognition that the importance of environmental protection would be further increased in the 21st century and that renewed efforts are necessary to achieve sustainable development in the world. They expressed their wishes to contribute to international efforts to promote sustainable development. They shared the recognition that the outcome of TEMM should be input to other regional and global environmental meetings for this purpose. They reaffirmed that TEMM should play an important role in promoting environmental cooperation and sustainable development in the Northeast Asian region.



recognized the positive role played by the North-East Asian Subregional Programme of Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) in the field of air pollution management at an intergovernmental level. They also noted with appreciation the progress made since the 2nd TEMM with regard to the three countries' joint research project on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollutants (LTP) and the North East Asian Centre for Environmental Data and Training (NEACEDT), and expressed their intention to continue cooperation for the further promotion of these programs.

12 On water management, the Ministers affirmed that the sustainable management of fresh water resources and conservation of water environments are issues of global importance. They shared the recognition that the three countries should actively contribute to ensuring the successful outcome of the 9th International Conference on the Conservation and Management of Lakes in November 2001 and the Third World Water Forum in March 2003.

13 On marine pollution, the Ministers welcomed that the establishment of the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) of the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region (NOWPAP) had been agreed upon in principle, and recognized the importance of further promotion of various projects under the plan.

14 On conservation and the sustainable use of bio-diversity, the Ministers underlined the importance of collecting and exchanging information on fauna and flora in an appropriate way, and exploring project-style cooperation. They shared the view that wetlands are important ecosystems, as they act as habitat for various wildlife including migratory birds. They also recognized the importance of cooperation among the three countries for protecting migratory birds and their habitats, by promoting the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy and the Site Networks.

15 The Ministers decided that the next TEMM will be held in Korea. The date and venue will be proposed by the host country and then confirmed with the other parties. In addition, the Ministers reaffirmed the view that they would meet on the occasion of international forums attended by all three Ministers. The Ministers shared the view that they should discuss the framework and focuses of TEMM at its second cycle for the further progress of TEMM.

16 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the friendly cooperative atmosphere and the achievements of this year's meeting. Minister XIE Zhenhua and Minister KIM Myung Ja expressed their gratitude to the host country for its kind and warm hospitality.

to other regional and global environmental meetings would prove valuable to the international environmental endeavor. They shared the view that for this purpose, strengthening of linkages with other Northeast Asian environmental programmes is necessary.

4 The Ministers reviewed the implementation status of the projects formulated under the five priority areas identified at the second TEMM. They commended the constructive work of last year's Roundtable Meeting on Environmental Industry and the Joint Environmental Training Project, and appraised the ongoing projects on freshwater pollution prevention, TEMM website, environmental education network and ecological conservation in Northwest China. Expressing their desire to see all the TEMM activities bear fruitful results, the Ministers shared the view that strengthening of TEMM organizational and financial mechanisms is important.

5 The Ministers also discussed various issues of common concern. Discussions covered both global issues such as the preparation for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), climate change and biodiversity, and regional issues like sand dust (yellow sand or kosa) and ecological conservation in Northwest China. They expressed their willingness to strengthen cooperation on recycling-based economy and society. In addition, they commended China's successful hosting of the first Asia-Europe Environment Ministers Meeting in Beijing last January, and welcomed Korea's offer to host the 8th Special Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environmental Forum of the UNEP in 2004.

6 In regards to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Ministers recognized the historical significance it carries in the global efforts to revive the environment. The Ministers observed that Korea, China and Japan should make constructive contributions to the process and have regional considerations integrated into the final outcome. In particular, they shared the view that TEMM is an outstanding model of regional cooperation among the countries with different economic and social conditions. They hence agreed to forward the activities of TEMM to the Summit process. The Ministers underscored the importance of incorporating environmental considerations into the development schemes of Asian countries, and maintained that the Summit should

serve as an opportunity to highlight this issue. Lastly, they pointed out that continual stakeholder dialogues among the three countries are essential for the success of the WSSD and sustainable development.

7 The Ministers noted with appreciation the continuous efforts of the three countries to address climate change which is a pressing issue requiring global participation. Reaffirming that the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol provide the framework for international cooperation and represent the important first step of human efforts on this issue, they maintained that domestic and international efforts should be strengthened to combat climate change in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities. The Ministers also reiterated their expectation to see the Protocol enter into force in 2002, bearing in mind the timing of WSSD.

8 The Ministers expressed their concern about the ecological deterioration in Northeast Asia. They paid special attention to the recent outbreak of sandstorm (yellow sand or kosa), which has become exacerbated by droughts and land degradation. Recognizing the efficacy of TEMM projects in improving ecological conditions, they agreed that focus should be placed on promoting environmental management capacity of the three countries through such measures as environmental seminars, training and scientific research activities. The Ministers also recognized the need to strengthen monitoring capacity to combat sandstorms. Finally, they stressed the importance of extensive engagement of national environmental administrations in the region and international organizations like UNEP and Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the efforts to cope with the challenges arising from sandstorm.

9 Regarding air pollution, the Ministers noted that acid deposition is a serious problem faced by Korea, China and Japan. Reaffirming their commitment to actively promote the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET), they stressed that enhancing its activities including research, quality assurance & quality control programs and strengthening the basis of EANET are important. In the area of air pollution management, the Ministers appreciated the progress of the joint research project on long-range transboundary air pollutants (LTP), and commended the proactive roles of the Northeast Asian

The Fourth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Seoul, Republic of Korea | April 20-21, 2002

1 At the invitation of Minister KIM Myung Ja of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China and Minister OHKI Hiroshi of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan visited Seoul, where they held the fourth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) from April 20 to 21, 2002. On this occasion, the Ministers paid a courtesy call to H.E. Prime Minister LEE Hang Dong.

2 The Ministers exchanged views on the progress made in the field of environment in their

respective countries and in the Northeast Asian region. They noted with pleasure that the TEMM and its activities received high regard at the Trilateral Meeting of the Leaders of Korea, China and Japan in last November in Brunei.

3 The Ministers observed that environmental protection will be key to shaping the course of the 21st century. In this vein, they anticipated that the international community will make significant efforts to achieve sustainable development. The Ministers communicated their intention to contribute to these efforts and agreed that providing information on TEMM



Subregional Programme of Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC) and the Northeast Asian Center for Environmental Data and Training (NEACEDT). However, they observed that air pollution still remains a formidable problem in Northeast Asia, with the transportation sector making increasingly significant impact on the environment. Taking note of the fact that transportation sector is making increasing contribution to air pollution, greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere and to noise and vibration problems, the Ministers agreed that studies should be conducted to explore measures for environmentally sustainable transportation, including the promotion of environmentally friendly modes of transportation and infrastructure.

10 Concerning water management, the Ministers recognized the vital importance of securing reliable freshwater sources and preserving water environment in realizing global sustainability. In this regard, they welcomed the prevailing view of the global community on the importance of freshwater issues in the WSSD preparation process.

The Ministers agreed that the three countries should collaborate closely to contribute to the success of the Third World Water Forum in 2003.

11 In the area of marine pollution, the Ministers appreciated the the outcome on the establishment of Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) at the seventh Intergovernmental Meeting of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP), held in

March 2002. They maintained that the early set up of RCU is crucial to facilitating the implementation of NOWPAP projects.

12 In the field of biological diversity, the Ministers recognized that habitat protection is critical to sustaining our ecological treasures. Particularly, they shared the view that wetlands constitute an important habitat, providing sanctuaries to rare fauna and flora, including endangered wildlife and various migratory birds. The Ministers consented to promote active exchange of information on the status of wetlands and their conservation and restoration efforts.

13 The Ministers decided that the next TEMM will be held in China. The date and venue will be proposed by the host country and confirmed by the other parties. The Ministers also agreed to meet on the sidelines of international forums attended by all three Ministers. Finally, they shared the view that they should discuss matters relating to enhancing the TEMM framework and promoting its activities at future meetings.

14 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the friendly atmosphere and the fruitful conclusions of this year's meeting. Minister XIE Zhenhua and Minister OHKI Hiroshi expressed their gratitude to Minister KIM Myung Ja and the Korean government for their warm welcome and generous hospitality.

of the three countries at the 2001 Trilateral Summit. They agreed that TEMM should play more important roles in strengthening regional and global environmental cooperation to realize the content of the Declaration.

3 The Ministers reflected upon the last informal meeting held on the sidelines of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg last year and noted the importance of integration of economic development, social development and the environment protection. Recognizing that healthy environment is a prerequisite to social and economic sustainability, they reaffirmed their commitment to contributing to international efforts for sustainable development. They also discussed concrete ways to work on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

4 The Ministers reviewed the progress made in environmental management in their respective countries since the Fourth TEMM. The Ministers also noted with satisfaction the new targets set by the Government of China for improving the environment while promoting economic growth, which aims to increase by fourfold the current level of GDP in the next 20 years. They shared the view that the domestic environmental efforts of the three countries are vital to the enhancement of human society and should be supported by the international community. They agreed to step up their concerted efforts for regional and global environmental improvement.

5 The Ministers highly regarded the achievements of the various TEMM projects and pledged their support for the expansion and continued productivity of these projects. They also attached great importance to children's environmental education and promotion of human resources exchange.

6 Regarding global environmental issues, the Ministers expressed strong concern over their alarming severity and commended the positive steps taken by the international community to tackle these issues. The discussion covered, inter alia, climate change, biodiversity, ozone depletion, and acid deposition. The Ministers agreed to further deliberate on these issues when they meet on the occasion of major international conferences.

7 The Ministers reflected on the outcomes of the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on

Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Milan, Italy, on December 1-12, 2003. The Ministers recognized that the three countries should exert all possible efforts towards the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC. They further recognized the importance of Kyoto Protocol in addressing global climate change and strongly urged those countries which had not ratified the Kyoto Protocol to do so as soon as possible to ensure its prompt entry into force and effective implementation thereof. The Ministers noted with appreciation the continuous efforts of the three countries to address climate change which is a pressing issue requiring global participation in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities.

8 The Ministers noted with pleasure that Korea will be hosting the 8th Special Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) which is scheduled to convene in Jeju Island on March 29-31, 2004. Recognizing that this is the first time that the Governing Council will convene in Asia, they decided to cooperate closely for the success of this session. As an initial step, the Ministers agreed to publish a brochure detailing the nature of TEMM's work and its results since 1999.

9 Understanding that TEMM is an action-oriented cooperation body designed to counter global and regional environmental problems, the Ministers emphasized the need for TEMM's reinforcement and extended role in global and regional environmental endeavors. To this end, they agreed to make sustained efforts for instilling the TEMM's guiding spirit- the spirit of cooperation and mutual respect for collective well-being- to the rest of the Asian region.

10 Regarding air pollution, the Ministers noted that acid deposition is a serious problem faced by Korea, China and Japan, and reaffirmed their commitment to actively promote the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and joint research on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP).

11 The Ministers paid attention to dust and sandstorms (DSS), which have become exacerbated by droughts and land degradation in Northeast Asia. Recognizing the necessity of capacity building for environmental management as well as promoting monitoring and early warning network

The Fifth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Beijing, People's Republic of China | December 13-14, 2003

1 At the invitation of Mr. XIE Zhenhua, Minister of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, Minister KOIKE Yuriko of the Environment Ministry of Japan and the Minister HAN Myeong Sook of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea visited Beijing, where the three Ministers met for the Fifth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on December 13-14, 2003. The Ministers also paid a courtesy call to H.E. ZENG Peiyan, Vice Premier of

the State Council of People's Republic of China, at the Zhongnanhai, Beijing on December 13, 2003.

2 The Ministers are encouraged by the Joint Declaration on the Promotion of the Tripartite Cooperation among the three countries, signed by leaders of the three countries in Bali last October. In the field of environmental cooperation, they also recalled the significance attached to TEMM for its leading role in the regional environmental cooperation by the leaders



system for DSS, they agreed to make joint efforts to develop related projects.

12 Concerning the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) led by UNEP with the goal of preserving the marine and coastal environment of the Northwest Pacific, the Ministers agreed that it is important to establish Regional Co-ordination Unit (RCU) as soon as possible and to further collaborate for active promotion of NOWPAP activities.

13 The Ministers concurred that the next TEMM would be held in Japan. The date and venue will be proposed by the host country and subsequently confirmed by Korea and China.

14 The Ministers expressed their deep satisfaction with the outcomes of this year's meeting as well as the friendly atmosphere that prevailed. Minister KOIKE Yuriko and Minister HAN Myeong Sook conveyed their gratitude to Minister XIE Zhenhua for his warm welcome and hospitality.

conservation action plans and the expansion of habitat networks based on the Asia-Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy.

8 The Ministers paid attention to dust and sandstorm (DSS) issues, which have become exacerbated by droughts and land degradation in North East Asia. They recognized the necessity of capacity building for environmental management and monitoring as well as the necessity of promoting a monitoring network and information sharing for DSS. They welcomed the outputs of the ADB-GEF DSS regional technical assistance (RETA) project on DSS in the North East Asia region. The Ministers of the three countries shared the view of the necessity of launching an expert network to consider related technical issues. They agreed to make joint efforts to develop related projects for taking further actions. The Ministers welcome Mongolia and international organizations to join these efforts.

and environment, and eco-labeling. The Ministers expressed their support for initiating information exchange and policy dialogue in these areas, which would be useful in policy development in each country regarding environment and economy. The Ministers confirmed their intention to take further steps in developing joint environmental education programs for children, which they decided at TEMM5, within the framework of the existing project. They shared the view that the three countries should encourage the participation of various social actors in TEMM projects, from the aspect of "raising consciousness of the environmental community," which was one of TEMM's priority areas for cooperation.

11 The Ministers also recognized the need for the promotion of collaborative research in North East Asia to help address regional environmental problems. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the collaborative research progress promoted by the Tripartite Presidents Meeting (TPM) among the National Institute for Environmental Studies in Japan, the National Institute of Environmental Research in Korea, and the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences in China. The Ministers welcomed that Korea made a proposal to establish a joint research institution and called for further consideration by relevant parties.

9 The Ministers exchanged views regarding recent progress in each country regarding the sound material-cycle society and/or circular economy, and especially welcomed that the Chinese national 11th Five-Year Plan will incorporate the idea of a circular economy covering the 3R activities of reduce, reuse and recycle. The Ministers reaffirmed that 3R activities are vital to building a sound material-cycle for sustainable development. The Ministers confirmed their will to have a cooperative relationship within the Asian region. In this connection, the Ministers recognized the importance of the "3R Initiative" proposed by Japan and of the ministerial conference on the 3R Initiative to be hosted by Japan in Tokyo in April 2005 aimed at promoting 3R activities on a worldwide basis. Further, the Ministers supported the proposal raised by China that a tripartite symposium or seminar be held on the matter, with details to be confirmed at the official level.

12 The Ministers recognized that TEMM has brought the significant result of strengthening the environmental policy of the three countries. They also reiterated that TEMM would play a greater role in the environmental management of North East Asia henceforth. Moreover, they confirmed their will to discuss the state of environmental management of the region on a continuing basis and agreed to establish a working group which would work on this matter.

10 The Ministers reviewed TEMM projects from their start to the present, and they generally shared their views that TEMM projects should be outcome-oriented and implemented more effectively and efficiently. The Ministers concurred that some of the existing projects should be reorganized in terms of scope and content. Potential areas of future cooperation under the TEMM included such areas as sound material-cycle society/circular economy, trade

13 The Ministers stated that TEMM would continue to promote regional environmental policy dialogue, including with other countries of the subregion. In this respect, they welcomed that the Minister of Nature and Environment of Mongolia would participate in the discussion on dust and sandstorm issues to be held upon the conclusion of the TEMM6 meeting.

14 The Ministers confirmed that they should bring into being the output of important regional and

The Sixth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Tokyo, Japan | 4-5th December, 2004

1 At the invitation of Minister KOIKE Yuriko of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister KWAK Kyul Ho of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea and Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China visited Tokyo, where the three Ministers met for the Sixth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on December 4 and 5, 2004. At the opening of the Meeting, Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado delivered a welcome address.

2 The Ministers reemphasized their common view that TEMM was an important meeting for encouraging regional environmental cooperation and sustainable development. The Ministers highly appreciated the high recognition given to the progress of TEMM at the Trilateral Meeting of the Leaders of Korea, China and Japan in November.

3 The ministers exchanged their opinions on the progress of the environmental actions which had been made recently in each country and in the North East Asian subregion.

4 The Ministers welcomed Russian ratification of the Kyoto Protocol, which will bring the Protocol into force, and reconfirmed the importance of the Kyoto Protocol as a first step towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In addition, they reconfirmed their common recognition

that all three countries should enhance their domestic efforts as well as international cooperation in accordance with common but differentiated responsibilities. They are also expecting positive outcomes at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) which will be held from December 6 to 17, 2004 in Argentina.

5 Concerning the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) under the leadership of UNEP with the goal of preserving the marine and coastal environment of the Northwest Pacific, the Ministers welcomed the inauguration of the Regional Co-ordination Unit at Busan and Toyama and expressed their expectations towards the promotion of NOWPAP activities through this Unit. The Ministers also shared the recognition that their three countries need to make joint efforts towards further collaboration for activities within the framework of NOWPAP, including the issue of marine litter in the Northwest Pacific.

6 The Ministers noted that acid deposition is a serious problem faced by Korea, China and Japan, and reaffirmed their commitment to promote actively the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and joint research on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP).

7 The Ministers confirmed that the three countries would continue to take concrete actions to preserve biodiversity, including the implementation of



global environmental meetings such as the ASEAN+3 Ministerial Meeting on the Environment which was held in October and that they should contribute to the success of meetings, including the UNESCAP Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED) which is to be held in Seoul in March of 2005.

15 The Ministers decided to hold the next TEMM in Korea. The date and the venue will be suggested by Korea, to be confirmed by China and Japan.

16 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction that this meeting had been held in a friendly atmosphere and had brought about such positive results. Minister Kwak and Minister Xie expressed their deep gratitude to Minister Koike and the host country of Japan.

public awareness raising and technology development, deployment and transfer based on the principle of common but differential responsibility. In this regard, the Ministers shared the view that "COOL BIZ" campaign could be effective in promoting energy saving by encouraging people to wear lighter clothes in business occasion. They also welcomed the launch of the New Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate, which is consistent with and contribute to the three countries' efforts under the UNFCCC, and will complement but not replace the Kyoto Protocol.

8 The Ministers acknowledged that the first working group was held on July 14-15, 2005 in Jeju Island in order to review the state of environmental management of the Northeast Asian region and to seek ways to improve the role of TEMM in the region. The Ministers expressed their expectation for further activities of the working group on this issue. They also expected the Working Group to facilitate the effective implementation of the outcome of TEMM and requested the Working Group to make a plan on the future cooperation activities with regard to the outcome of TEMM 7 including EIA on FTA and e-waste.

5 The Ministers paid attention to dust and sandstorm (DSS) issues in North East Asia. They recognized the necessity of capacity building for environmental management and monitoring as well as the necessity of promoting a monitoring network and information sharing of data obtained through national monitoring and related bilateral projects. They welcomed the outputs of the ADB-GEF DSS regional technical assistance (RETA) project in the North East Asia region and agreed to make joint efforts to develop related projects to take further actions. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the result of the first expert meeting on design of regional network for Prevention and Control of Dust and Sandstorms in Northeast Asia held in August in Tsukuba, Japan and the adoption of the arrangement on ground monitoring and information exchange for DSS between Korea and China in June to provide the basis for further action.

9 The Ministers shared the recognition that the three countries need to make joint efforts toward further collaboration within the framework of the Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP), including on the issue of various marine litter, to preserve the marine and coastal environment of the Northwest Pacific. They also shared expectations towards the promotion of NOWPAP activities through the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU).

The Seventh Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Seoul, Korea | October 22-23, 2005

1 At the invitation of Minister LEE Jae Yong of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister XIE Zhenhua of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China and Minister KOIKE Yuriko of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan visited Seoul, where the three Ministers met for the Seventh Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on October 22-23, 2005.

September 8-9, 2005 in Beijing, which was a good opportunity to share experiences of the three countries. They also welcomed the Ministerial Conference on the 3R Initiative held in April in Tokyo. The Ministers concurred that the three countries take turns holding joint seminars or workshops on sound material-cycle society and/or circular economy and 3R activities for the next three years as important TEMM activities to strengthen trilateral cooperation on this issue.

2 The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 6. They welcomed the outline of China's next five-year plan that clearly expresses the intention to establish an environmentally-friendly society based on the concept of scientific development. The Ministers recognized that TEMM had played an important role for promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia. They assured that the three countries would continue to work together on various regional issues.

4 The Ministers welcomed the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol this February, reconfirming its importance as a first step toward achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). In this context, they reaffirmed that the global community should take further actions to address the climate change problem. They expressed their expectation for positive outcomes that can lead to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and further global efforts to tackle climate change at the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) of the UNFCCC and the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP1), which would be held from November 28 to December 9 of this year in Montreal. The Ministers confirmed that the three countries should enhance domestic efforts as well as international cooperation especially in the fields of

3 The Ministers reaffirmed that building a sound material-cycle society is essential in achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia. The Ministers recognized that the three countries are building sound material-cycle and environmentally-friendly society through various efforts. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the accomplishments of the Tripartite Symposium on Circular Economy held on

6 The Ministers noted that acid deposition is a serious problem for the three countries, and reaffirmed their commitment to promote the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and joint research on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP), recognizing the importance of the participation of the three countries in the discussion on the future development of EANET and LTP.

10 The Ministers confirmed that the three countries would continue to take concrete actions to preserve biodiversity, including the development of a regional framework on conservation of habitats for migratory waterbirds throughout East Asian Australian Flyway. The Ministers expressed their interest of increasing cooperation in information exchange on invasive alien species within the framework of Convention on Biological Diversity to ease the damage caused by them.

11 The Ministers recognized the importance of cooperation among the three countries in conserving and managing water environment in the region. In this regard, the three Ministers acknowledged the information provided through Water Environmental Partnership in Asia (WEPA), which aims to strengthen governance and capacity building in water environmental management by providing an information platform on water environment conservation.

7 The Ministers recognized TEMM projects had been outcome-oriented and being implemented effectively and efficiently. Therefore, the Ministers commended the achievements of TEMM projects, especially latest activities to start the promotion of "Green Purchase", to harmonize criteria for eco-labeling and the publication of joint educational material for children.

12 The Ministers recognized that it was important to cooperate with the requirement for Stockholm Convention, whose objective is to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic



pollutants (POPs). The Ministers noted the usefulness of information sharing on POPs under the framework of Stockholm Convention.

13 The Ministers recognized the need for the promotion of collaborative research in Northeast Asia to help address regional environmental problems. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the progress of collaborative research promoted by the Tripartite Presidents Meeting (TPM) among the National Institute of Environmental Research in Korea, the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences and the National Institute for Environmental Studies in Japan. The Ministers recognized that further collaboration will come from the three research institutes at the 3rd TPM, which will be held in Korea next year.

14 The Ministers shared the view that the outcome of TEMM should be input to other regional and global environmental meetings such as the ASEAN+3 Environmental Ministers Meeting. They commended Korea's successful hosting of the fifth UNESCAP Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific (MCED) held in

March in Seoul. The Ministers reaffirmed to support the concept of "Green Growth" and expressed their willingness to cooperate in implementing the follow-up measures of the Seoul Initiative.

15 The Ministers of China and Japan welcomed Korea's efforts to host the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (RAMSAR Convention) COP 10 in 2008 including Korea's campaign to host the COP 10, which will take place at the RAMSAR Convention COP 9 held in November in Uganda.

16 The Ministers concurred that the next TEMM will be held in China. The date and venue will be suggested by the host country and subsequently confirmed by Japan and Korea.

17 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the positive results of this year's meeting, which was held in a friendly atmosphere. Minister Xie and Minister Koike extended their deep gratitude to Minister Lee and the host country of Korea for their warm welcome and hospitality.

4 The Ministers reaffirmed that building a sound material-cycle society including 3R(reduce, reuse, recycle) is essential in achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia and recognized that the three countries are taking various measures to build an environment-friendly and resource-saving society respectively.

5 The three Ministers reaffirmed that the global community should take joint efforts to address climate change. They expressed their appreciation towards the outcomes of the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) to the UNFCCC, and the second session of the Meeting of the Parties (COP/MOP2) to the Kyoto Protocol, including the decision on the second review of the Kyoto Protocol in 2008 and the decision on the AWG's work on the further commitments for Annex 1 parties, and recognized the need for further global efforts to tackle climate change. The Ministers reiterated that the three countries should enhance domestic efforts as well as international cooperation especially in the fields of public awareness raising and clean technology development, deployment and transfer based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. They also expressed the willingness to support the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate (APP), which will complement but not replace the Kyoto Protocol.

6 The Ministers recognized that dust and sandstorm in Northeast Asia was posing common concerns for countries in this region and agreed to work together to reduce the damage caused to possible human health and the environment in this region. They recognized the necessity of capacity building and monitoring data sharing in order to promote a monitoring network in North East Asia region. In this regard, they welcomed the efforts to develop the outputs of the ADB-GEF DSS regional technical assistance (RETA) project. Also, they concurred in holding a director general meeting before the next TEMM to discuss concrete measures including the establishment of a joint research group.

7 Regarding air pollution, the Ministers noted that acid deposition is still a serious problem in the region and reaffirmed their commitment to promoting the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and joint research on Long-

range Trans-boundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP). The Ministers stressed the importance of information exchange, capacity building and joint research and showed great expectation for the future development of EANET and LTP.

8 Concerning water management, the Ministers recognized the importance of cooperation among the three countries in conserving and managing water environment in the region. In this regards, the three Ministers acknowledged the information provided through Water Environmental Partnership in Asia (WEPA), which aims to strengthen governance and capacity building in water environmental management by providing an information platform on water environment conservation.

9 In the area of marine pollution, the Ministers appreciated the successful holding of the Second Intergovernmental Review of the Global Program of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) by the Chinese government. The Ministers appreciated the joint efforts made by the three sides within the framework of Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) and shared the recognition of the discussion made on financial status and further collaboration on marine litter, marine and coastal environment preservation of the Northwest Pacific.

10 The three Ministers also recognized that illegal trans-boundary movement of toxic and hazardous waste has become a regional as well as an international issue which involves economic and environmental factors. The Ministers agreed to take joint efforts to fight against the illegal action.

11 The Ministers acknowledged the importance of the three countries' cooperation toward the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target. In this regard, they confirmed that the three countries will continue to take concrete actions to preserve biodiversity. The Ministers also recognized the necessity of sharing the information on the protected area, the invasive alien species of concern and the damage caused by them.

12 The Ministers recognized that it is important to cooperate with the requirement for Stockholm Convention, whose objective is to protect human health

The Eighth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Beijing, People's Republic of China | December 2-3, 2006

1 At the invitation of Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China, Minister WAKABAYASHI Masatoshi of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and Minister LEE Chi-Beom of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea visited Beijing, where the three Ministers met for the Eighth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on December 2-3, 2006. H. E. ZENG Peiyan, Vice Premier of the State Council of People's Republic of China, sent a congratulation letter to the meeting.

2 The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 7. They welcomed the "Three Transformations for China's Environmental Protection under the New Situation" put

forward by China, "Integrated Improvement of the Environment, Economy and Society" by Japan and "the Comprehensive National Environmental Plan" by Korea that clearly express the intention to integrate environmental protection into economic and social development. The Ministers recognized the role TEMM played as an important constituent of the Trilateral Meeting of the Leaders of Korea, China and Japan and reached consensus that TEMM was of vital importance in promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia. They agreed that TEMM should play more important roles in the future.

3 The Ministers exchanged their views on global and regional issues of common concern and reached consensus on some important issues.



and the environment from persistent organic pollutants (POPs). The Ministers noted the usefulness of information sharing on POPs under the framework of Stockholm Convention. The Ministers also concurred that three countries will make full use of the existent TEMM source such as TEMM website to help promote information exchange on policies and regulations on chemicals management in order to ensure the protection of human health and the environment in an efficient way. To this end, the Ministers suggested taking chance of international meetings to start information exchange at working level.

13 The Ministers also exchanged their views on the progress of the environment actions identified as priority of TEMM made in the 3 countries and in the Northeast Asia Subregion.

14 The Ministers recognized the need for the promotion of collaborative research in Northeast Asia to help address regional environmental problems. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the progress of collaborative research promoted by the Tripartite Presidents Meeting (TPM) among the National Institute of Environmental Research in Korea, the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences and the National Institute for Environmental Studies in Japan.

15 The Ministers recognized that TEMM projects had been outcome-oriented and are being implemented effectively and efficiently. Therefore, they praised the latest activities to promote the exposition of “green purchase” as well as to strengthen the work of building common criteria of “eco-labeling” and the communication for Environmental Management for Small and Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs). As for the Tripartite Environmental Education Network

(TEEN), they expressed their expectation for further progress of diverse activities which include active use of environmental education materials for children. The three Ministers also noted the Trade & Environment Project and the Northeast Asia Environmental Management Project.

16 The Ministers recognized the importance of sharing successful experiences in environmental management among the three countries. In this regard, the Ministers welcomed the idea of briefing on latest progress of institutional arrangement, personnel training and environmental performance review by the three countries and foresaw its positive effect.

17 The three Ministers consented to make a financial support by inviting existing sources to better promote TEMM activities especially those are in great need such as DSS.

18 The Ministers shared the view that the outcome of TEMM should be reflected in other regional and global environmental meetings such as the ASEAN+3 Environmental Ministers Meeting.

19 The Ministers concurred that the next TEMM will be held in Japan. The date and venue will be suggested by the host country and subsequently confirmed by China and Korea.

20 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the fruitful results of this year’s meeting. Minister WAKABAYASHI and Minister LEE extended their gratitude to Minister ZHOU and the host country of China for the hospitality.

environmental management after TEMM 8. They welcomed the “Environmental Strategy for the 21st Century” put forward by Japan, the “National Strategy for Sustainable Development” by Korea, and strategic thought of “applying Scientific Outlook on Development to build up an environmentally-friendly society” by China, all three of which clearly express the intention to integrate environmental protection into economic and social development.

3 The Ministers noted the “Declaration for Environmental Partnership in Toyama” made on Dec. 4th. In this regard, they shared the view that cooperation among local governments, academia and private entities in Northeast Asia is important.

4 The Ministers exchanged their views on global and regional issues of common concern and reached a consensus on some important issues.

5 The Ministers agreed that UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol have paved a legal basis for international communities to respond to climate change which has identified the principles of “common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities”. The Ministers stressed that all countries should play a role in addressing the common challenge of climate change, based on the above principles, and that developed countries should continue to play a leading role. The Ministers committed to the common goal of stabilizing atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations in the long run, at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. They also agreed to support the work to achieve a common understanding on a long-term aspirational global emissions reduction goal to pave the way for a more effective post-2012 international arrangement. Appreciating the initiatives such as “Low Carbon Society” and noting the efforts in proposing a long-term global goal, the Ministers reiterated their support for the successful outcome of the 13th session of the COP to the UNFCCC and the 3rd MOP to the Kyoto Protocol. They concurred to promote a co-benefits approach, which addresses environmental pollution and climate change simultaneously. They concurred that the three countries will enhance their collaboration to implement the Basel Convention to meet the objectives set out therein. In addition, the Ministers welcomed the tripartite meeting on e-waste management held in Beijing in June 2007 and

recognized the need to address illegal trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste, especially e-waste, with the joint efforts by three countries.

6 The Ministers stressed the importance of sharing a vision of a sound material-cycle society/an environmentally friendly and resource efficient society and improving resource productivity in each country as well as in East Asia as a whole. The Ministers also recognized that priority in this field should be put on efforts for sound waste management and the 3Rs within each country to reduce environmental impacts as well as to prevent illegal trade of wastes.

7 The Ministers recognized that it is important to cooperate to meet the requirements for Stockholm Convention, and noted the usefulness of information sharing on POPs at policy level under the framework of the Convention. Also, the Ministers welcomed the progress of information exchange on chemicals management as well as the outcome of the Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among Korea, China and Japan held in Tokyo in November 2007. They recommended exploring of areas of further co-operation and harmonization in chemicals management through this dialogue, including responses to the Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS), and information sharing on chemicals used in products.

8 During the Special Session for Dust and Sand Storm (DSS), the Ministers recognized that dust and sandstorms in Northeast Asia is a common concern for countries in this region. The Ministers appreciated the outcome of the two Tripartite Directors General Meetings on DSS held in March in Korea and in September 2007 in Japan. Also, they welcomed the efforts to implement the ADB-GEF DSS Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) project which is to facilitate capacity building, and monitoring data sharing for the regional DSS monitoring in Northeast Asia. They concurred to hold the first Steering Committee to discuss important matters such as Terms of Reference of Working Groups in Japan in January 2008 and to start joint research on DSS in a cooperative manner in order to establish the monitoring and early warning network on DSS and promote measures to mitigate DSS in the region, subject to the availability of financial

The Ninth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Toyama, Japan | December 4-6, 2007

1 At the invitation of Minister KAMOSHITA Ichiro of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister LEE Kyoo-Yong of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea and Vice Minister LI Ganjie of the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People’s Republic of China visited Toyama, where

the three Ministers met for the Ninth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) on December 4-6, 2007.

2 The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding



resources. Furthermore, they agreed to hold a Working Group meeting in the first half of 2008 to decide joint research projects in detail, thereby initiating joint research on DSS from 2008.

9 The Ministers confirmed that the three countries will continue to take concrete actions to conserve biodiversity and to achieve the 2010 biodiversity target. In this regard, they reaffirmed that they will facilitate to cooperate for the success of the 10th Conference of the Parties to the RAMSAR Convention to be held in Korea in 2008, and appreciated Japan's bid to hold the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity in 2010. The Ministers also recognized the necessity of sharing information on biodiversity including information on national biodiversity strategies and action plans as well as protected areas, and concurred to cooperate closely for possible joint activities accordingly with a view to conserving the biodiversity in the East Asian region at large.

10 Regarding regional air pollution, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to promoting the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and joint research on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP). With regard to the issue of photo-chemical oxidant, the Ministers agreed to cooperate in scientific research, e.g. sharing existing findings as appropriate, which could help analyze the mechanism of ozone pollution and facilitate the formation of common understandings.

11 In the area of marine litter, the Ministers appreciated the joint efforts made by the three countries within the framework of Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) and its Marine Litter Activities (MALITA). They also recognized the importance of further collaboration on marine litter activities, in an effective and practical manner, as well as on marine and coastal environment protection of the Northwest Pacific under NOWPAP.

12 Concerning water management, the Ministers recognized the importance of cooperation among the three countries in conserving and managing water environment in the region. The Ministers appreciated the activities of the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) for providing

an information platform and capacity building on water environment conservation, with the aim of strengthening governance in water environmental management through international WEPA forums and WEPA workshops.

13 The Ministers recognized the importance of the promotion of collaborative environmental research in Northeast Asia to help address regional environmental issues. The Ministers welcomed the progress of collaboration promoted by the Tripartite Presidents Meeting (TPM) among the National Institute for Environmental Studies in Japan, the National Institute of Environmental Research in Korea and the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences.

14 The Ministers recognized that TEMM projects had been outcome-oriented and are being implemented effectively and efficiently. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the final report on Ecological Conservation in North-west China. They reaffirmed the importance of the "Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN)" and confirmed that they would start the exchange of information with a view to enhancing cooperation on environmental education policies and programs with particular emphasis on higher education in the three countries through the TEEN. They applauded the four latest activities, namely organizing an exposition on green purchasing, strengthening the work of building common criteria of eco-labeling, undertaking communication in the area of corporate environmental management and promoting environmental industry and technology.

15 The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to TEMM and envisioned that TEMM would play more active role in promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia. Furthermore, they shared the common view that TEMM could contribute to ASEAN+3 and the East Asia Summit. In this regard, they reaffirmed that they will follow-up on the Singapore Declaration on Climate Change, Energy and the Environment.

16 The Ministers decided that the next TEMM will be held in Korea. The date and venue will be suggested by the host country and subsequently confirmed by China and Japan.

17 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the fruitful results of this year's meeting. Minister Lee and Vice Minister Li extended their gratitude to

Minister Kamoshita, the host country of Japan and Toyama Prefecture for the hospitality.

The Tenth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Jeju, Korea | December 1-3, 2008

1 At the invitation of Minister LEE MAANEE of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China and Minister SAITO Tetsuo of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan visited Jeju, where the three Ministers met for the Tenth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM10) on December 1-3, 2008.

2 The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental management after TEMM 9. They welcomed the "Environmental Policy Directions & Tasks for Green Growth & Higher Quality of life" by Korea, the efforts of "pollution abatement" and "rehabilitating the ecologically vulnerable rivers and lakes" guided by the "Scientific Outlook on Development" by China, and the "Clean Asia Initiative" and the "Action Plan for Low-Carbon Society" put forward by Japan, all three of which clearly express the intention to integrate environmental protection into economic and social development.

3 The Ministers exchanged their views on global and regional issues of common concern and shared the views on some important issue.

4 The Ministers welcomed the progress of information exchange on chemicals management and the outcome of the Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management among Korea, China and Japan held in Seoul in September 2008. They recommended making continuous efforts for further co-operation in chemicals management through this dialogue, including responses to the Globally Harmonized System for Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) among the three nations and cooperating in the Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR). The Ministers welcomed the first PRTR workshop which would be held in December, in

China. They also agreed to consider the need for information-sharing among the three countries on utilizing the Quantitative Structure Activity Relationship (QSAR) and implementing the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).

5 Three Ministers applauded the very success of Beijing Olympics and appreciated that China honored its commitment to "Green Olympics." As host countries of Olympic Games in East Asia, tripartite countries will learn from each other, make good use of the legacy for urban environmental management and work together to promote the sustainable development of urban area in this region.

6 The three Ministers concurred that the three countries will enhance their collaboration to implement the Basel Convention to meet the objectives set out therein. In addition, the Ministers welcomed the tripartite workshop on e-waste management policy held in Beijing in November 2008. Ministers agreed to continue their efforts against the illegal transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, especially e-waste, through the continued dialogue among the three countries as well as the concerted efforts in Asia on the Environmentally Sound Management of E-waste under the Basel Convention. The ministers agreed that the three countries should enhance cooperation of E-Waste management on exchange information and capacity building.

7 Regarding regional air pollution, the Ministers reaffirmed the needs of promoting the activities of the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and joint research on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollutants in Northeast Asia (LTP). The Ministers welcomed the outcomes of the Tenth Session of the Intergovernmental Meeting on EANET held in Thailand on November 20-21 this year, and noted the importance of cooperative efforts in the



region to cope with air pollution. In addition, the Ministers welcomed the success of “Tripartite Workshop on Scientific Research of Photochemical Oxidant”, which was held in September 2008 in Japan and agreed on further cooperation in scientific research, which could help analyze the mechanism of ozone pollution and facilitate the formation of common understandings. The Ministers exchanged their view of co-benefits approaches and their potential to reduce pollutants.

8 In the area of marine litter, the Ministers appreciated the joint efforts made by the three countries within the framework of Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) including the progress of Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI). They also recognized the importance of further collaboration on marine litter activities, in an effective and practical manner, and agreed to share measures and experiences in each country and make joint efforts to prevent marine litter through public awareness raising activities on this issue. The Ministers highlighted the importance of efforts on protecting marine environment and noted related activities such as developing Marine Protected Area Network in the region.

9 Concerning water management, the Ministers recognized the importance of cooperation among the three countries in conserving and managing water environment in the region. The Ministers appreciated the activities of the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA) for providing an information platform and capacity building on water environment conservation, with the aim of strengthening governance in water environmental management through international WEPA forums and WEPA workshop.

10 Welcoming the enactment of the Circular Economy Promotion Law in China and the development of the fundamental plans for promoting sound material-cycle / resource recirculation in Japan and Korea, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitments to pursuing resource efficient society through sound waste management and the 3Rs. They appreciated the 4th Tripartite Seminar on Sound Material Cycle Society / 3Rs / Circular Economy, held in Qingdao, China on October 30th this year. The Ministers welcomed the important roles of member countries in

pursuing such society in Asia. They agreed to strengthen the tripartite cooperation in this field, and appreciated the launch of ‘Asia 3R Promotion Forum.’

11 The Ministers exchanged their views on the establishment of low carbon society to cope with the common challenge of climate change. The three Ministers expressed concerns on the negative impacts of climate change on sustainable development, ecosystem and the environment, and recognized that the three countries need to make joint efforts to promote green growth / low carbon society / low carbon economy through transferring environmentally-friendly technologies and conducting joint research on low carbon economy and carbon market in Northeast Asia. The three Ministers exchanged their view of co-benefits approaches and their potential toward low-carbon society, which can contribute to environmental pollution control, waste management and environmentally sustainable transport. In order to achieve low carbon society, the three Ministers noted the importance of reaching agreement on a shared vision of long-term global goal for emission reductions under the UNFCCC, in consideration of principles of the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol, particularly the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. They underlined the need to act with resolve and urgency during the Climate Change Conference in Poznan, Poland, in 2008 and work towards an ambitious, effective and comprehensive agreed outcome for long-term cooperative action now, up to and beyond 2012 at the Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark at the end of 2009.

12 The Ministers confirmed that three countries will continue to make utmost efforts for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to achieve the 2010 biodiversity target, given the importance of biodiversity as an indispensable basis for the provision of vital ecosystem services and the long-term provision of natural resources. In this regard, Minister SAITO Tetsuo asked supports from China and Korea for Japan’s successful hosting of the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2010 at Nagoya, Aichi, and the Ministers reaffirmed that they will cooperate for the success of the meeting. The three Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to promoting the conservation and

wise use of wetlands in line with “the Changwon Declaration on human well-being and wetlands,” and also the activities based on the resolution on “Enhancing biodiversity in rice paddies as wetland systems” adopted at the Ramsar COP 10 held in 2008 at Changwon, Korea.

13 The Ministers recognized that TEMM projects had been outcome-oriented and are being implemented effectively and efficiently. They welcomed the implementation of 2008 joint research plan of the Joint Research on Dust and Sandstorm (DSS) among Korea, China and Japan and shared the view that the three countries should make more efforts for addressing DSS in Northeast Asia. They reaffirmed the importance of the “Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN)” and noted the Asian universities network titled “ProSPER.NET” in order to find a cooperative way of Environmental Education for low carbon growth. And Minister SAITO Tetsuo proposed to hold a meeting in Japan for networking environmental youth groups next year and other ministers expressed their sympathy for it. They applauded the outcome of the 8th Tripartite Environmental Industry Roundtable held in Shiga, Japan on November 4-5 this year, such as considering the Tripartite Eco-Products Exhibition, building common criteria on eco-labeling and undertaking communication in the area of corporate environmental

management and environmental industry and technology.

14 The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the progress on “Joint Research on Environmental Management in Northeast Asia” among the Policy Research Center for Environment and Economy of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China, the Institute for Global Environment Strategies of Japan and Korea Environment Institute, and recognized the preliminary conclusions of the joint research such as “Northeast Asian Environment Week.” The Ministers reaffirmed that TEMM has played an important role over the past decade in promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia.

15 The Ministers decided that the next TEMM will be held in China. The date and venue will be suggested by the host country and subsequently confirmed by Japan and Korea.

16 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the fruitful results of this year’s meeting. Minister ZHOU Shengxian and Minister SAITO Tetsuo extended their gratitude to Minister LEE MAANEE, the Korean government and Jeju Province for the hospitality.

The Eleventh Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Beijing, People’s Republic of China | June 13-14, 2009

Preamble

1 We, namely, Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People’s Republic of China, Minister SAITO Tetsuo of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan and Minister LEE Maanee of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, assembled for the 11th Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting on June 13-14, 2009 in Beijing, PRC, and reaffirmed our commitment to the pursuit of the shared vision of equity and development for the region.

Commitment Recalling

2 We noted the commitment made by our leaders at the Trilateral Summit in Fukuoka, Japan in Dec, 2008. We paid attention to “a new era of tripartite partnership which will lead to the peace and sustainable development in the region” supported by the Joint Statement for Tripartite Partnership, and recognized the role TEMM played as an important constituent of the Trilateral Summit.



A Decade of Achievement

3 We shared our views on the progress of tripartite cooperation during the past decade since TEMM 1. We reached consensus that TEMM was of vital importance in promoting regional environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in the Region. We expressed appreciation for the achievements on priority areas in the last 10 years. We observed that considerable progress had been made under TEMM, such as Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN), Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society, Joint Research on Dust and Sandstorm (DSS), environmental industry, etc.

Green Partnerships for Fighting Financial Crisis

4 We emphasized our common concern during the global financial crisis. We called the three countries to advance green cooperation for responding to regional environmental issues and contributing to global environmental issues, and promote sustainable economic growth/Green Growth in Northeast Asia. We are confident that our efforts can assist us in promoting sound environmental management and green growth at this special moment.

Vision

5 Under the common understanding that Northeast Asia is one environmental community, we agreed to enhance the tripartite cooperation on information exchange including joint research activities, response to regional environmental issues, contribution to global environmental issues, and environmental governance in Northeast Asia with collaboration with other regional cooperation mechanisms.

Cooperation Priority Areas 2009-2014

6 We approved the following areas as priority cooperation areas in the coming 5 years in accordance with the new situation and our common concern:

- Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation;
- Climate Change (Co-benefits Approaches, Low Carbon Society, Green Growth, etc.);
- Biodiversity Conservation;
- DSS (Dust and Sandstorms);
- Pollution Control (Air, Water, Marine Environment etc.);

- Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society;
- Transboundary Movement of E-Waste;
- Sound Management of Chemicals;
- Environmental Governance in Northeast Asia;
- Environmental Industries and Technology.

7 We entrusted the environmental awareness and public participation to become the significant influence on cooperation in the three countries. We welcomed the suggestion of jointly compiling the "Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation". We believed that this program is a systematic and integrated initiative which we will review and update regularly. We also welcomed the proposal on Developing Our Common Green Future: China/Japan/Korea Student Environmental Education Joint Reader. We showed the expectation of the meeting to be held in Japan in this autumn for networking environmental youth groups in three countries. We reaffirmed the importance of the "Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN)" and noted the Asian universities network titled "ProSPER.NET" in order to find a cooperative way of Environmental Education.

8 We expressed our concerns on the negative impact of climate change on sustainable development, ecosystem and the environment. We emphasized the need of making joint efforts to tackle this global challenge by promoting green growth and low carbon society. We recognized that the three countries should strengthen researches on co-benefits, low-carbon products certification, carbon market and technology development and transfer in the GHG high emitting industries for emissions reductions of the three countries, which contribute to addressing global climate change issues as well as achieving the target of the pollution reduction. We also expressed our determination that three countries will work continuously on reaching a fair and effective international climate change arrangement beyond 2012 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark at the end of 2009.

9 We considered that we had the common pressure from urbanization and the significant impact on unique ecological environment in Northeast

Asia. We reaffirmed our commitment to promoting the biodiversity conservation and supported the performance cooperation under the CBD in the three countries. Ministers welcomed the Chinese government's efforts to increase the budget allocation on national biodiversity conservation during financial crisis. Minister SAITO Tetsuo asked supports from China and Korea for Japan's successful hosting of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2010 at Nagoya, Aichi, and the Ministers reaffirmed that they will cooperate for the success of the meeting. The Ministers also welcomed Korea's effort to host the 5th World Conservation Congress in 2012. The primary objective of ecological environmental management is to conserve ecosystems and maintain environmental quality in the region. We recognized the need to strengthen capacity building on ecological monitoring for conserving biodiversity within three countries.

10 We stressed the need to pursue an appropriate measure to prevent and respond DSS (Dust and Sandstorms) in the region and appreciate that common efforts made by the Tripartite Director General Meeting on DSS among Korea, China and Japan held in Qingdao, China on April 16, 2009. With respect to the direction of cooperation, we noted that the cooperation priorities would be focused on DSS monitoring methodology, prevention technology, and capacity building. We agreed to consider DSS forecasting model and health impact in the joint research in the future with the involvement of important stakeholders. We also agreed to strengthen the capacity building on the above mentioned areas.

11 We stressed the need to pursue appropriate measures to prevent air pollution and to protect the water and marine environment in the region. Relevant joint scientific researches were encouraged on early warning, pollution prevention and control, such as photochemical oxidant, water and marine environment. We appreciated the joint efforts made by the three countries within the framework of Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) including the progress of Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter. We also recognized the need to enhance such joint efforts with a view to enhance concrete measures in each country to prevent outflow of marine litter including appropriate management of wastes and relevant materials.

12 We supported to deepen the cooperation on Environment-Friendly Society /3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society, especially policy formulation and technology exchange. We agreed that our three countries should strengthen cooperation in environmentally sustainable cities management.

13 We would pay continuous attention to the cooperation on hazardous wastes, especially e-waste. We considered that the three countries will enhance the collaboration to implement the Basel Convention to meet the objectives set out therein. We concurred in continuing our efforts against the illegal transboundary movement of hazardous wastes, including the e-waste, through the continued dialogue among the three countries as well as the concerted efforts in Asia on the Environmentally Sound Management of E-waste under the Basel Convention. We agreed that the three countries should enhance cooperation of E-Waste management on exchanging information and making joint efforts to combat the illegal transboundary movement, as well as the capacity building on legislation and enforcement.

14 We welcomed the progress of dialogue cooperation on chemicals management. We recommended making continuous efforts for further cooperating on chemicals management through exchange of information and capacity building.

15 We noted the importance of development in environmental governance in Northeast Asia. We reaffirmed the roles that the TEMM has played in promoting regional environment cooperation during last decade, and agreed to jointly study on the future development of environmental management regime in Northeast Asia. We also noted that the enhanced cooperation is feasible based on the development of partnership between public and private sectors.

16 We reconfirmed the importance of involvement of relevant environment industries and reaffirmed the need to further foster cooperation in the field of environmental industries and environmental technology.

17 We shared the view that financial arrangement in each country is crucial in improving trilateral cooperation and tackling emerging challenges. We reaffirmed the importance of the efforts by the Environment Ministers of the three countries to allocate

Resources

Resources



a budget for environmental cooperation activities in priority areas as specified above.

The Way Forward

18 Based on cooperation principles of openness, transparency, mutual trust, common interest and respect for our diverse cultures, together we will:

- promote environmental-sound development in Asia;
- submit the Leaders of three countries our contribution of “Joint Statement on Environmental Cooperation Among Korea, China and Japan”, and
- make great efforts to realize the Green Economy by strengthening the environment cooperation in Northeast Asia.

The Twelfth Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting among Korea, China, and Japan

Chitose and Tomakomai, Japan | May 22-23, 2010

Preamble

1 At the invitation of Minister Sakihito OZAWA of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Minister ZHOU Shengxian of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People’s Republic of China and Minister LEE Maanee of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea visited Hokkaido, where the three Ministers met for the Twelfth Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM12) on 22-23 May 2010.

Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation

2 The Ministers confirmed that TEMM was of vital importance in promoting environmental cooperation and achieving sustainable development in Northeast Asia. We observed that considerable progress has been made under TEMM, such as Tripartite Environmental Education Network (TEEN), Circular Economy/3R/Sound Material Cycle Society Seminar, Joint Research on Dust and Sandstorms (DSS), environmental industry, etc.

3 The Ministers noted the commitment made by our leaders in the Joint Statement on Sustainable Development among the People’s Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea at

TEMM 12

19 We decided that the TEMM 12 will be held in Japan. The date and venue will be suggested by the host country and subsequently confirmed by China and Korea.

Ending

20 We expressed our deep appreciation to the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the People’s Republic of China for hosting the meeting and its warm hospitality accorded to all participants.

the Trilateral Summit in Beijing, China in October 2009, and adopted the “Tripartite Joint Action Plan on Environmental Cooperation,” which states the goals and joint actions among the three countries from 2010 in the following ten areas.

- Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation
- Climate Change;
- Biodiversity Conservation;
- Dust and Sandstorms (DSS);
- Pollution Control;
- Environment-Friendly Society/3R/Sound Resource Recycle Society;
- Transboundary Movement of E-Waste;
- Sound Management of Chemicals;
- Environmental Governance in Northeast Asia;
- Environmental Industries and Technologies

4 The Ministers committed to steadily implement the agreed actions for achieving the goals stated in the Plan in accordance with the vision and scope, the strategic approaches and the implementation arrangement stated in the Joint Action Plan. They also agreed to oversee the progress and achievements of the Action Plan as a whole and provide guidance under TEMM.

Progress of Environmental Policies in Korea, China and Japan

5 The Ministers shared their views on the recent progress in each country regarding environmental policies after TEMM11. They welcomed the statements by each country on “Domestic Policy Progress on Global Warming Countermeasures and Measures toward Integrating the Environment into Economy” by Japan, “Accelerating the Shift of Economic Development Pattern and Exploring A Chinese New Road toward Environmental Protection” by China, and “Korea’s Green Growth Policies” by Korea. The three Ministers shared their recognition that these measures meet the important direction of clear intention to integrate environmental measures into economic and social development, and become a driving force for solving environmental problems in Northeast Asia as well as on the globe.

Environmental Cooperation for Global Challenges Climate Change

6 The three countries reaffirm their commitment to the objectives and principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, in particular, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and will work together to promote the full and effective and sustained implementation of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol.

7 The three countries welcome the outcome of the COP15/CMP5, and agree to work constructively together towards a positive outcome at the COP16/CMP6 in Cancun at the end of 2010.

8 Recognizing the scientific view that the increase in the global temperature should be below 2 degrees Celsius, on the basis of equity and sustainable development, the three countries should take cooperative action to promote the exchange of information on policies and actions among them on mitigation and adaption to climate change, share knowledge and best practices, promote the joint development and the transfer of climate-friendly technologies, facilitate cost-effective, project-based, and mutually-beneficial cooperative activities that contribute to greenhouse gas emission reductions, and evaluate the effects of the cooperative projects on emission reductions in an appropriate manner.

9 The three countries will exchange information, starting from 2010, on each nation’s policy and experience on a co-benefits approach, which aims to address both climate change and environmental problems, utilizing existing international networks whenever appropriate.

10 The three countries will make efforts towards the realization of Green Growth and a Low-Carbon Society and will promote green and low-carbon development based on each country’s national circumstances, such as (i) a “Green Economic Policy” seminar in 2010 hosted by China and (ii) commencing joint research on Green Growth and a Low-Carbon Society.

Biodiversity

11 The Ministers confirmed to cooperate for the success of the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD/COP10), scheduled to be held in Nagoya City, Aichi, Japan in October 2010; and to support the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress, which will be held at Jeju Island, Korea in 2012. The Ministers agreed that it is important to utilize scientific information on the status and future trends of biodiversity in order to assist the decision-making process. The three Ministers recognized that a global interface between science and policy on the issue of the biodiversity is important. The Ministers noted that UNEP/Korea will host the third conference of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) to be held in Busan city, Korea in June and look forward to the outcomes of this conference. And, three countries will send their delegations respectively to actively join this conference. The Ministers confirmed that they will formulate and promote trilateral joint actions such as cooperative research on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through collaborative initiatives in international and regional platforms such as the Satoyama Initiative, and the East and Southeast Asia Biodiversity Information Initiative (ESABII) etc. to utilize such platforms to deepen cooperation in the area of biodiversity conservation.



Environmental Cooperation for Regional Challenges

Integrate the Environment into Economy

12 The Ministers confirmed their common understanding that integrating environmental perspectives into economic and social activities will contribute to achieving a new 21st century form of economic growth by making potential demand evident, strengthening competitiveness, and developing infrastructure for sustainable development. The three confirmed that they will cooperate toward the achievement of green growth and a low-carbon society through means such as holding a “Green Economy Policy” seminar in China in 2010 and initiating joint research on green growth and low-carbon society, while considering the circumstances of each country.

Dust and Sandstorms

13 The Ministers stressed the need to further promote measures to prevent and respond to Dust and Sandstorms (DSS), taking into consideration that DSS has become one of the high priority common challenges in the region. They also appreciated the efforts made by the Tripartite Director General Meeting on DSS among Korea, China, and Japan held in Sapporo, Japan on 13 March 2010, and confirmed that they will strengthen cooperation toward promoting the establishment of DSS monitoring and early warning networks, and DSS prevention and control measures. The three Ministers recognized the importance of DSS prevention and control, welcomed that the tripartite working group meeting on DSS prevention and control will be held in China, and confirmed their willingness to advance necessary cooperation. Furthermore, the Ministers confirmed the importance of providing and sharing relevant data, and the participation of experts on DSS forecasting models to further promote these joint activities, and welcomed that the working group meeting on DSS monitoring and forecasting models will be held in Korea.

Pollution Control

14 The Ministers stressed the need to further promote appropriate measures to prevent air pollution and to protect the water and marine environment in the region. Relevant joint scientific research projects were encouraged on early warning, pollution prevention and control, such as photochemical oxidants, water and marine environment.

15 *Air Pollution:* The Ministers recognized the importance of prevention and control of photochemical oxidants (Ox) and agreed to cooperate to develop concrete joint research through a tripartite workshop, which will be held in China. With a view towards strengthening the Acid Deposition Monitoring Network in East Asia (EANET) and promoting its future development, the Ministers also welcomed its Twelfth Inter-Governmental Meeting which will be held at Niigata, Japan in November 2010.

16 *Marine Litter:* The Ministers appreciated the joint efforts made by the three countries within the framework of Northwest Pacific Action Plan (NOWPAP) including the progress of Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP MALI) containing the coastal clean-up activities and agreed to cooperate closely, involving the remaining country, to enhance RAP MALI activities, inter alia, to strengthen joint-workshops and activities to raise awareness and promote research cooperation for sharing the scientific knowledge, including that which would improve the understanding of all countries in the region regarding the marine litter generation mechanism, with a view to managing the generation of marine litter. The three Ministers noted that an appropriate management of waste and relevant materials in land and coastal areas in each country plays a crucial role in addressing the problems of marine litter. The Ministers also recognized the need to enhance such joint efforts with a view to enhance concrete measures in each country to prevent outflow of marine litter including appropriate management of wastes and relevant materials.

Transboundary Movement of E-Waste

17 The Ministers took notice of the environmental pollution caused by the transboundary movement of e-waste. They expressed their eagerness to cooperate regarding e-waste management, especially the prevention and control of illegal e-waste transboundary movement. They agreed to explore the possibility of 1) establishing a cooperation mechanism among the three countries to strengthen e-waste management and regional policy coordination, 2) setting up a focal point contact in each country to facilitate information exchange, and 3) promoting cooperation on capacity building, exchange of experts and training.

Sound Management of Chemicals

18 The Ministers encouraged the progress of dialogue and cooperation on chemicals management. They recommended making continuous efforts for further cooperation on chemicals management and policy information exchange.

Environmental Education, Environmental Awareness and Public Participation

19 The Ministers placed high value on environmental education, raising environmental awareness and promoting public participation. They appreciated the substantial achievements of joint environmental education activities accumulated for 10 years cooperation among the three countries including the environmental training of officials, development of the Tripartite Environment Education Network (TEEN) and its activities. They agreed to collaborate on the creation of the Environmental Education Readers from 2010, with reference to the Environmental Education Readers developed by China, and also on the promotion of information exchange on education materials developed in each country.

Outreach of TEMM

20 Three Ministers agreed on the need to strengthen environmental cooperation in East Asia. They emphasized that TEMM should play an important role in promoting regional cooperation through regional frameworks such as East Asia Summit (EAS) and ASEAN+3, noting the vision of an East Asia community and Asia Integration Process, understanding that environmental conservation is one of its key elements. They concurred that they will work toward achieving synergies between various initiatives, efforts, and ideas such as a low carbon East Asia community, and a green Asia. The Ministers will cooperate to outreach the green growth efforts of the three countries through events such as the UNESCAP preparatory meeting for the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development which will be held from 5-9 July 2010 in Muju, Korea.

TEMM13

21 The Ministers decided that TEMM13 will be held in Korea. The date and venue will be suggested by the host country and subsequently confirmed by China and Japan.

22 The Ministers agreed to invite students and business representatives from the three countries to contribute their knowledge and experience to the TEMM.

Closing

23 The Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the fruitful results of this year’s meeting. Minister LEE Maanee and Minister ZHOU Shengxian extended their gratitude to Minister Sakihito OZAWA, the Japanese government, Hokkaido, Chitose city, and Tomakomai city for the hospitality.

Hokkaido, 23 May 2010.